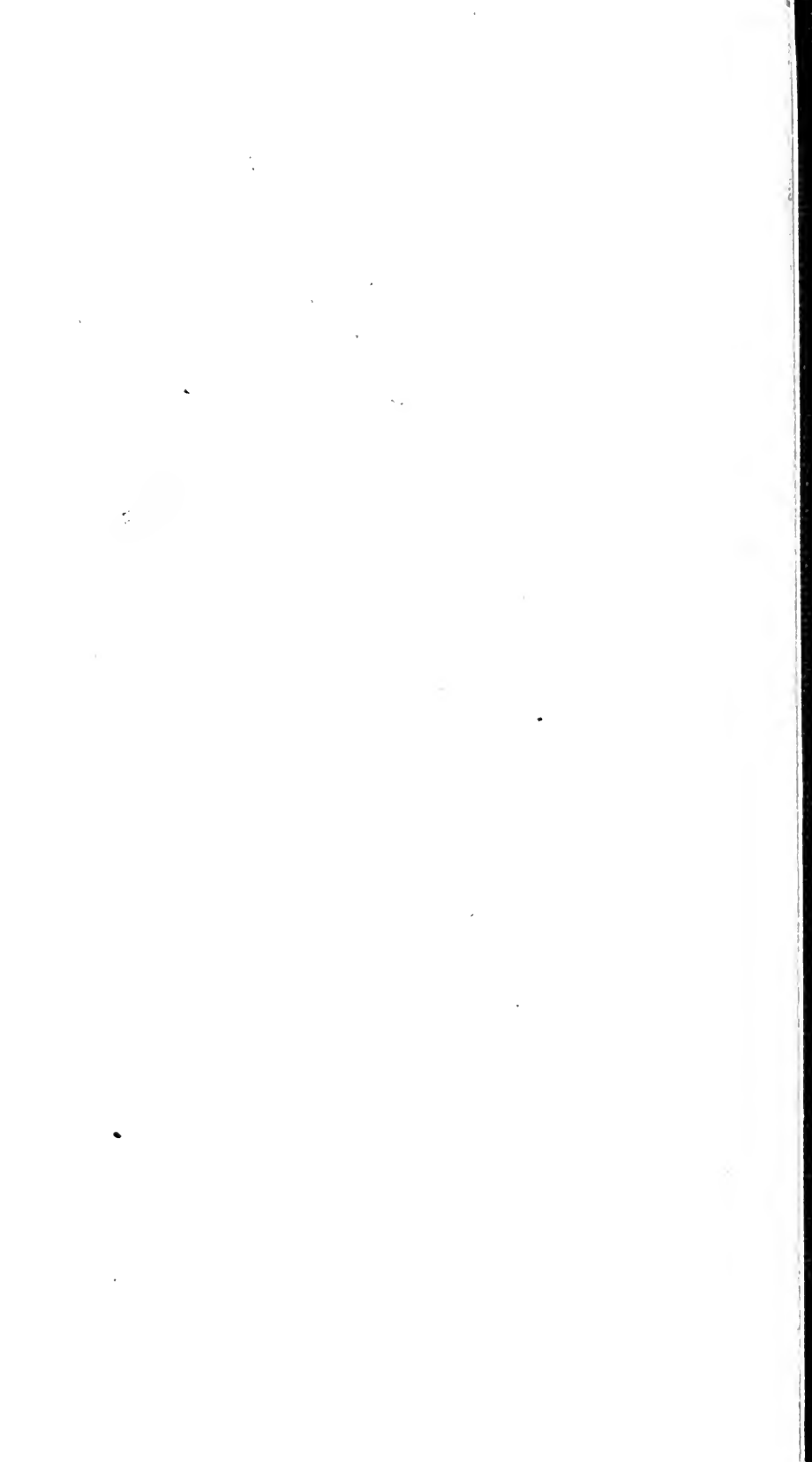
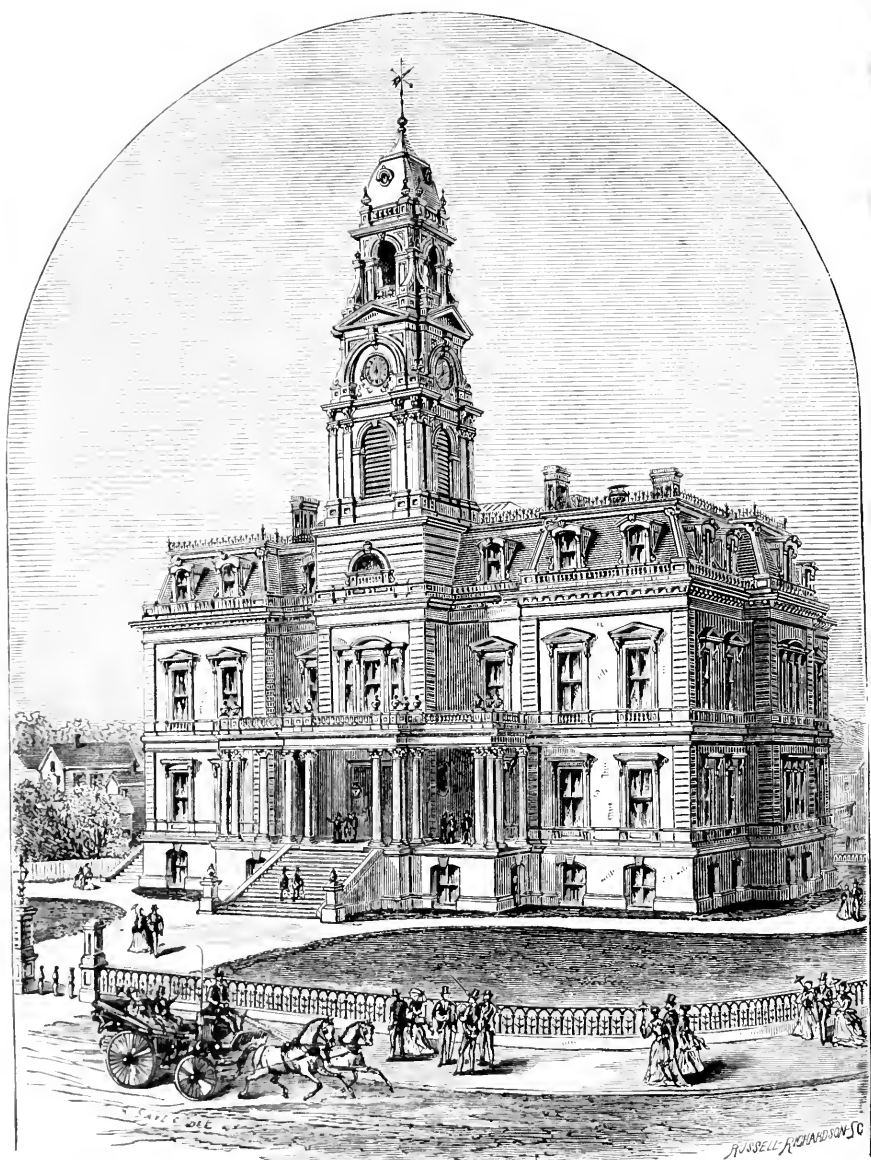


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From a Photograph by W. T. Bowers.

NEW CITY HALL, LYNN.

THE
CITY HALL OF LYNN:

BEING

A History of Events leading to its Erection,

AND

AN ACCOUNT OF THE CEREMONIES

AT THE

DEDICATION OF THE BUILDING,

NOV. 30, 1867.



PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

LYNN:
THOS. P. NICHOLS, PRINTER.
1869.

CITY OF LYNN.

IN BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN, }
December 2, 1867. }

Ordered, That the City Clerk, under the direction of His Honor the Mayor, cause to be prepared and printed a complete history of all matters and proceedings relating to the new City Hall, from the commencement to the completion of the same; including the appropriations and expenditures, together with the Addresses, Poem, and other proceedings connected with the dedication of the building; and that one thousand copies thereof be bound for distribution.

Sent down for concurrence.

BENJ. H. JONES, *City Clerk*.

IN COMMON COUNCIL, Dec. 9, 1867.

Adopted in concurrence.

C. M. TRACY, *Clerk*.

A true copy. Attest:

BENJ. H. JONES, *City Clerk*.

Under the authority of the above Order, the Committee of Publication have placed the work in the hands of CYRUS M. TRACY, Esq., for preparation and issue. The result, which we believe to be satisfactory, is seen in the volume now offered to our fellow citizens.

R. G. USHER, late Mayor, }
BENJ. H. JONES, City Clerk, }

Com. of Publication.

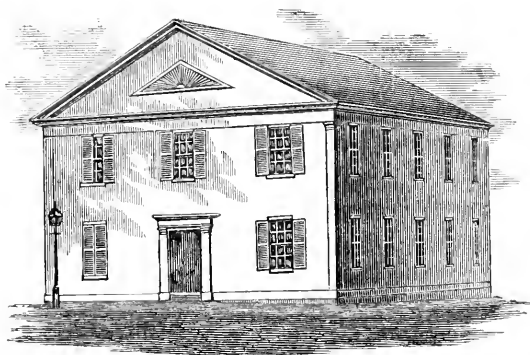
LYNN, Oct. 10, 1869.

M. & W. 11 Feb. 10

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PRELIMINARY HISTORY.



OLD TOWN HALL,
BUILT 1814. DESTROYED BY FIRE OCT. 6, 1864.

PRELIMINARY HISTORY.

THE character of the public buildings in a place is always a principal feature by which the place is judged. It may not be very easy to explain this fact fully, but it is notably true that hardly anything receives more prominent mention by tourists than the style of the public edifices in the cities visited. Hence we are usually in possession of better accounts as to these objects than we can obtain of many other characteristics of foreign places, even when the latter may be far more important.

Judged by the standard of her public buildings (a standard never, perhaps, wholly just), Lynn has not in time past held a high rank. Her early church edifices were of the primitive stamp common to the greater part of New England; her school houses were just sufficient for the purpose designed, with no margin for architectural effect; and as for buildings for municipal uses, she had none of them. Although the early settlers found it expedient to hold town meetings every three months for the regulation of public affairs,* they had no particular place allotted to such assemblies, but met in the village churches for more than one hundred and eighty years.

The erection of the first church was then, constructively, the beginning of buildings for municipal assemblies. The date of this event seems rather doubtful; but the church having been gathered on the 8th of June, 1632, it is probable that the meeting-house was built very near that time. Its location was not far from the present north-easterly corner of Shepard and Summer Streets: and late examinations render it probable that it stood almost exactly on the spot now occupied by the house of Mrs. M. F. Ward. This building served the double purpose of religious and secular gatherings for a period of about fifty years.

In 1682 the meeting-house which has gained such local celebrity as the "Old Tunnel" was erected on the Common. The older building is said to have been removed from the first location to form a part of the new structure; but how far this is true cannot now be known. This second

* History of Lynn, 1865, p. 132.

work was of a very substantial style, framed with the huge oaken timber of that day, and thoroughly appointed for the long and trying service which it afterward rendered so well. Tradition has always claimed that a part of the lumber used was from trees cut upon the Common not far from the place of the building itself. If this be correct, it would point to a kind of forest then prevailing here, very different from any that has grown on our soil in later years.

Space need not here be taken for any description of this edifice, as it has been fully given by other authors.* Its location has been variously stated, but seems to be best defined by the fact that Thomas Witt, whose house yet stands first east of the First Baptist Church, and Micajah Newhall, whose dwelling formerly stood next east from the First Congregational Church, could not, when standing in their respective doors, see each other's houses, the "Tunnel" being just between them. This places it a little west of the present flag-staff and music-stand.

This staunch edifice served the town in a religious and temporal way for a very long period indeed. But with the increase of population came, of course, a larger attendance at town-meetings; and, as it very naturally further happened, many of these voters and townsmen had separated from the primitive religious organization and given their adhesion to other churches. At length, in 1805, those who held possession of the old church came to the conclusion that the use of their house for town purposes could not be longer allowed. Various legal reasons were adduced in support of this decision; whether other feelings, somewhat less defensible, influenced the proceedings, it is not competent here to inquire. In the negotiations on the matter, an attempt was made to compromise by the payment of rent; but the town refused to hire the accommodation which, for a hundred and seventy-three consecutive years, they had held as their own by right. The last town-meeting held in the "Tunnel" was on April 1, 1805; the next, on the 6th of May following, was convened in the First Methodist Meeting-house, then standing at the eastern end of the Common, on what is now Park Square, and directly in front of the present house of the same name.

Thus was reached the end of that visible union of the ecclesiastical and municipal concerns of the people which had been for so many years the established order of things. When the town-meeting left the church, there was given up the last relic of the idea that the religious tenets of the people were identical with their municipal concerns, or that they were even correlatives. The town, as such regarded, was no longer a body

* History of Lynn, 1865, p. 277.

of Puritan believers, nor indeed of any other faith in particular. It was thenceforward a purely civil institution, tolerant of all persuasions, but not recognizing any; interested for the preservation of religious liberty and the cultivation of the Christian virtues, but no longer knowing, in its legislative or executive action, any denomination, as nearer than another to the public heart.

It is interesting for a moment to think of the stirring incidents, the critical events in the civil life of Lynn, to which the old house of meeting had been witness. From there, in 1689, went up that indignant deputation, headed by Rev. Jeremiah Shepard, to protest in arms against the usurpations of Sir Edmund Andros. It was on the 19th of April in that year, a day memorable in New England history, when the roused Bostonians took the usurping Governor and imprisoned him, backed by the strength of countrymen like those from Lynn, who came, says a witness, "like so many wild bears." Here was passed that order of the town by which, in 1706, all the common lands were equitably divided among the settlers who had made actual improvements of their own; thus at a stroke creating some of the most valuable land titles among us. In this ancient house were passed the notable resolves against the tea trade, in 1771 and '73, when Lynn declared that "The people of the British American Colonies, by their constitution of government, had a right to freedom, and an exemption from every degree of oppression and slavery." Here also, in 1780, the town granted twenty-seven hundred silver dollars to pay the soldiers of the Revolution, and in the space of two years, taxed themselves with a burden of seventy thousand pounds, old tenor, for the expenses of the defence of liberty. Here supplies and men were voted to suppress the Rebellion of Shays; here the spirited address to President John Adams was voted in 1798, on the subject of the French difficulties, which led the high recipient to reply, "Your acknowledgment of the blessings you enjoy, and determination never supinely to surrender them, prove you to deserve them."

At the time of leaving the old meeting-house, we hear nothing of any proposal for the building of any structure specially for the use of the town. It would hardly seem that there was such a state of prosperity as would encourage to such an enterprise, small, perhaps, in itself, but very considerable to the townsmen of that time. At the last election previous, April 2, 1804, the poll only showed four hundred and twenty-one votes. The valuation of the whole place, by the Assessors' books, was but about \$45,135.00. Beside, the "days of suspense" that followed the Revolution had not passed by; and the infant country, tottering under its new-

found independence, was like the little child of Dr. Franklin's anecdote, no man could tell what it might come to. It is not surprising, therefore, that no plan for a municipal edifice was brought forward at this time. The Methodist Church was readily obtained; it stood in a favorable situation, and moreover, since it represented that agency which, more than any other, had divided the sentiment of the people and led the way to the expulsion, it was not unfitting that it should open its doors and receive the wandering civil power in its turn. To the Methodist Church, then, the municipal center of the town was transferred.

The site of this building has been stated. Its architectural features will be readily recalled, not only by those who stately worshipped under its roof, but also by many of a younger age, who knew it after its removal from the Common in May, 1813, and during its long service on the southerly side of Ash Street, as the Grammar School House of the Sixth Ward. A much less pretentious edifice than the "Tunnel," it yet had a distinction the other never could claim, being the first house of worship built by its denomination, not in Lynn only, but in Massachusetts. It was erected in 1791, very soon after the formation of the First Methodist Society; and tradition has it that the veteran Jesse Lee gave daily labor to its construction during the week, and preached in it on Sundays, for a considerable time.

For nearly nine years next ensuing, the civil concerns of Lynn found here their home. In this sanctuary were intruded those fierce debates that marked the days of the Embargo of 1807, rising so high in the next year that we find one party expelling the other from the house and barring the doors against them. Upon this arena all those wordy combats took place, that tried the strength of Democrat and Federalist in the beginning of the War of Impressments. Indeed, did we wish to select the darkest days, the times of deepest depression that ever lay upon our town for nine years together, we could hardly fail to point to the period when the Selectmen's warrants called the people to assemble in the Old Methodist Meeting House.

During the year 1812, the First Methodist Society erected the house in which they have since continued to worship. It became desirable to dispose of the old building, and the town authorities found that another removal on their part was necessary. The last town meeting held there was on the 3d of May, 1813, and just one month after, on the 3d of June, the new church was dedicated, and the municipality left afloat without an anchorage. This, of course, could not last long. A meeting was called, at the eleventh hour as it were, Dec. 27, 1813, and, wanting a more con-

venient place, assembled at the Second Methodist Church, at "Wood-end;" an edifice on the site of the present St. Paul's. This meeting finally met the question squarely, and ordered the building of a TOWN HOUSE: an edifice that should be public property, and from which the officers of the people should not be liable to ejection at the hands of private parties.*

The performance of this enterprise was fully in keeping with the rapid style of building so often witnessed in our city since that time. The builders did not wait for seasoned timber. Tradition has always affirmed that logs, freshly cut in the woods, were hewn immediately for the frame; and an inspection of the fabric in later times made it a very probable story. Another tradition does, indeed, declare that a part of the frame was made from the timber which formed the cargo of one of the prizes sent in by the privateer *Industry* about this time. This is not now easy to be decided. Either way, the structure was put together by quick and willing hands. It hardly could have been begun before New Years Day, yet in March following (1814) the Selectmen proudly issued their warrant, calling the people to meet "in the Town House" on the 21st of that month, and they did so. But while the carpenters are hewing and framing this future temple of popular liberty, through all that winter's coldest days, we turn for a moment to one other edifice that for a space answered the needs of the hour, and thus comes naturally under notice.

There stood at that time on the corner of Market and Essex Streets a well-known building, commonly called the "Corner Store." The one now on the same spot, occupied by Warren Tapley, Esq., apothecary, is the same, with the alterations and improvements of later years. It was then owned, or at least occupied, by Paul & Ellis Newhall, two brothers, of whom the former still survives among us. The hall in the second story, though small, was yet a place of much importance; for, being centrally located, it was adopted as headquarters by the Democrats, who upheld the war then progressing; and from this it came to be known as the "War Office."

A single trial seems to have satisfied the authorities that the Second Methodist Church was not sufficiently central for the purpose of meetings. On looking about for a better place, then, the Selectmen pitched upon the "War Office" as more suitable than any other, and accordingly, the

* For the details of this order, and the report of the committee who executed it, see Mayor Neal's remarks at the laying of the corner stone of the City Hall, further on.

meeting for Jan. 31, 1811, was called at that place, or, as the warrant says, "at the Hall of Paul & Ellis Newhall." This room, not more than thirty feet by fifty, would hardly accommodate a single ward of the present city; but the meeting of the town was held there on the above date, and again, by adjournment, on the 7th of February following. These meetings are notable for the rather decisive action there taken on what was then new business for Lynn, to wit, the separation of new towns. The incorporation of Lynnfield had been under discussion for a long time; and here the contest was relinquished by the old town, and the new gained its independence on the 28th of the same February. This was the end of that period in which the freemen of the town were dependent on the pleasure of private owners for a place to transact their public affairs. Henceforth a new system was to be enjoyed.

On the 21st of March following, then, we find the town assembled in the new building, under a warrant served by Otis Newhall, Constable.* If the voters felt any pleasure in viewing the work, it could hardly have been on account of its beauty or completeness. The outside was barely finished, the inside not at all. Only the single under floors appear to have been laid, and a few seats, perhaps, with the simple platform and conveniences for voting, made the whole of that possession to which the people of Lynn had ventured to help themselves, after they had owned the soil for more than a hundred and eighty years. True, it was put in a somewhat better state soon after, for the work was even then going on; but the remaining items were small. During the summer it appears to have been underpinned and furnished with stone steps; the upper floors were also laid. And in this state — only one remove better than a barn — it stood for eighteen years in its conspicuous position, nearly opposite the head of Church Street, the unadorned representative of the municipal character and policy of Lynn.

It is not necessary to give even a passing notice here, to the numerous important events that find historical connection with the legislation had in this building. During the "Masonic War" of 1829, the Nullification excitement of 1832, the strife over the incorporation of the city in 1850, and the grand contest between liberty and slavery that covered and ran through the whole of the last thirty years of its existence, the Old Town Hall witnessed many scenes of profound interest, fit every way to engage

* This was a son of Micajah Newhall, mentioned on p. viii, and brother of Paul and Ellis Newhall, spoken of above. He must be distinguished from Otis Newhall who was in the City Government many years, between 1853 and 1866, and was also Keeper of Pine Grove Cemetery for a long period. He was a son of Allen Newhall.

the pen of the historian or the poet. These we pass without recital. In 1831, the townsmen had come to feel the propriety of clearing away the various buildings that encumbered the Common, and the removal of the Town House became an essential part of this improvement. The committee appointed (Nov. 14, 1831) to superintend this work were William Bassett, Ebenezer Brown, and Jacob Ingalls. On the 17th of the next March, Henry A. Breed and Stephen Oliver were added, and the work was done during the early part of the year. No formal report from this committee appears on the record, but it was at this time that the interior was first brought into a condition that might be called finished. So far indeed was the improvement urged, that the town were even induced to vote that a stove should be provided among the other additions to the edifice, and thus the established chill of the "March meeting" was legislated away, and the new order of things acknowledged, at least in principle.

The spot to which the building was thus removed was exactly that where Blossom Street now opens upon South Common. From this time it became the grand lecture-hall of the place, opening its doors to any and all who would pay the prescribed charges for its use. Its plain, familiar look will long endure in the memory of those who knew it, and equally so the face and figure of its honest superintendent, Mr. John Hallowell,* who faithfully made it his charge for many years. But after a time, the rusty and somewhat elderly look of the building seemed to call for further improvement, and the town voted, March 8, 1841, to refer the business of proposed repairs to a committee, being Henry A. Breed, Ebenezer Weeks, Jr., Stephen Oliver, Joseph Ingalls, Jr., and Samuel Stearns. These having reported to the subsequent meeting of April 5th, Otis Newhall,† Ebenezer Weeks, Jr., and Henry A. Breed were appointed to superintend the repairs. Five hundred dollars were appropriated for the object.

The repairs thus made were rather extensive, involving a change from the original hipped roof to the more approved style with gables, and sundry interior arrangements, going to make the rooms more tenantable. The work was contracted for and executed by Mr. Newhall, of the committee, who employed Munroe & Fenby,‡ carpenters, and John F. Cook, painter and glazier, in the various parts of the work. Some controversy seems to have grown out of the matter; as an investigating committee.

* A son of Henry Hallowell, who was Town Clerk from 1804 to 1820.

† The same first named on p. xii.

‡ Phipps Munroe, son of Timothy, was killed by accident Nov. 26, 1861. His partner was Thomas P. Fenby.

appointed March 19, 1842, and who reported to the town April 4, would appear to have suspected some irregularities.

After these repairs and alterations, the Town Hall presented the appearance shown in the cut which precedes this chapter. No further change was ever made in the exterior. The inner arrangements comprised a comfortable Selectmen's Room in the south-eastern corner; a room immediately in front of it, used by the Fire Department; a room in the south-western corner, occupied by the Lynn Light Infantry, which was afterwards extended so as to occupy most of the west side of the hall. A waste room for wood, &c., on either side, took up the remainder of the lower floor, save the long hall or passage, which ran from front to back through the center, and gave access to the whole. The stairways were in the two front corners, respectively, and led immediately to the capacious hall, that filled nearly all the second floor, only leaving two small closets above the staircases. In this form the structure remained till the change in the form of government in 1850. Then it became evident that a re-arrangement of rooms was necessary, as there was no disposition to attempt any new structure. A partition was thrown across the large hall, taking off about one third of its size next the front. This small section was appropriated to the use of the Police Court, and was also assigned as a ward room for Ward Five. The larger portion, entered through the ward-room, was allotted to the Common Council, being furnished with a raised platform and desks, with a circular table sweeping round the middle area, and seats for twenty-four members. The enclosure for the Selectmen and Clerk, known so anciently as the "calf-pen," was removed; but the raised tiers of seats on either side remained for the public, as they had been for many years. In the lower story but little change was made. The Selectmen's Room became the City Clerk's Office, having been provided with a brick vault for the records some time before. The Engineer's Room accommodated also the Assessors and Overseers; while the Armory became two rooms, the southern for the Mayor and Aldermen, and the one in front for the Judge of Police Court.

In this way the City Government contrived to accommodate themselves for some time. After a year or two, a further improvement was made by taking out the stairs in the north-westerly corner, and from the space so gained making an office for the City Marshal on the lower floor, and one for the Clerk of Police Court on that above. The room behind and below the north-eastern stairs was converted into two strong lockups, ceiled up with plank, but with iron grated doors. The furniture of the principal

rooms was almost wholly from Stephen Smith, of Boston, and was thought very fine at the time, though plain in comparison with that of later days. The parties who executed the alterations were too many to be here enumerated; but the whole was done under the chief oversight of William Bassett, the last Clerk of the town and the first of the city.

We now arrive at that period in our history marked by the destruction of the building that had thus served the town and city for half a century. In the recital of an event which produced a strong sensation throughout the city, a degree of detail somewhat greater than has been had in the foregoing pages may be indulged. It is not probable that any connected account of the occurrence can be now found, other than that given in the solitary paper then printed in the city; and in view of the unsubstantial character of such a record, and the better chances of durability on the part of this volume, it is thought fit to chronicle the circumstances of this disaster with something of exactness.

On the evening of Oct. 5, 1864, the police apprehended, for disorderly and noisy conduct, a man named Joseph Bond, living in Charles Street, and committed him to the lockup, placing him in the smaller of the two cells, under the stairs. During the night an officer visited the place one or more times, and attended to such other persons as were in custody, finally discharging, before morning, all but the individual named. After this the man was alone in the building for a time, so far as can be known.

Between four and five o'clock in the next morning, Oct. 6, Mr. William B. Gould, living in the "Ripley House," nearly opposite the Hall, heard a succession of screams, apparently from the lockups, in which he distinguished the words "let me out!" This cry, though passionate, was so often heard from that quarter, that in the quietness of the morning, he gave it no attention. But the sounds had also been heard by Mr. David B. Dowst, of Salem, marketman, who, coming from the east along the Common, noticed them to grow fainter as he approached, and finally to cease, just after he reached the Hall. Stopping his wagon, he found the lockups in flames, and the fire bursting from the windows at the northeasterly corner. This was just at five o'clock. He instantly gave the alarm, and brought Mr. Gould, who had heard the stopping of the team, and was fully aroused, with Mr. Charles W. Wilson, tailor, from the same house, also Mr. Henry H. Downing, and Mr. Samuel A. Guilford, carpenter, both of Bedford Street, and William Howland, Esq., counsellor, of Hanover Street. The fire was seen filling the cells, while the unfortunate man could be discerned, lying upon his face, with his head close

to the grated door, making no sound, and seeming without life or motion. The fire department not coming speedily to work, the persons named, with a few more who joined them, brought water with buckets, and with all dispatch flooded the cells, and particularly the place around the victim, so as to check the fire and allow the rooms to be entered. As soon as this could be done, Officers James Stone and David S. Thrasher dislodged the body of the unhappy man from the pile of brands that partly had covered him, and brought it out from the ruin in a sadly disfigured condition. Death, of course, was perfect. It only remained to take it to a fit shelter, and then to turn attention to the building.

The fire, checked below, had meantime been working its way upward in the walls and partitions about the stairway; and before the remains were well removed, it had burned through on the front pediment, and spread across to the north-west corner. All further access to the upper story by the staircase was now cut off; yet as the fire seemed to progress rather slowly, and the department were energetically at work, the destruction of the building was not looked for, even then. But every moment showed the wider incursions of the flame, creeping unseen through the cavities of the dry old walls, and still breaking out afresh in spite of the exertions of the firemen. Had attention been drawn earlier in that direction, no doubt all the furniture of the second floor might have been saved; but by seven o'clock it was seen to be hopeless to attempt to reach it. After consuming the whole upper front, the fire burned down from the roof upon the Council Chamber and the Court Room. A little while answered for the destruction of both. Nothing in either was saved, whether furniture, fixtures, or papers. Fortunately none of the latter of any special value had been left in the chamber, but such were lodged habitually in the Clerk's office below. In this office was a strong brick safe, in which were all the records of the city; and to this, the ruin of the building being certain, attention was given at once.

So far, nothing in the lower story was harmed except the cells in which the fire began. There was full opportunity to remove all the books and papers, and this was done without confusion, or the loss of valuable matter. Before its final subjection, the fire had burned through the upper floor immediately over the brick safe, and had destroyed a quantity of pamphlets and other printed matter, lying in small closets above. Here it was brought to an end. The Clerk's office was not materially injured, nor indeed any of the other rooms below; though the whole was deluged with water, and the remaining shell had little of worth or character left to it.

With regard to the origin of the fire nothing was ever known. Among those best qualified to judge, many and diverse theories have been held; but no new facts have been elicited. The man was searched by Marshal Thurston, before committal, so thoroughly as to make it improbable, though perhaps not impossible, that he had matches about him. The doors of the Hall being found unlocked by those first arriving, some were led to suspect the entrance of an incendiary, while others believed the fire to have been set from the outside, as might have been easily done through the front window. But nothing was certainly ascertained. The Old Town Hall was burned, and the poor man, who probably never entered it before, and whose previous character was fair, had gone to his death in a manner too dreadful for contemplation. His widow, during a few years, received a small gratuity from the city, and then died of consumption. The ruins were divided into several parts and removed, and now form portions of as many buildings in and about Beach Street.

Thus the City Government were again without a local habitation. Rooms were soon hired, however, in the large brick block of G. K. & H. A. Pevear, in Washington Street, west side, south of Munroe. The offices here were first occupied on the 8th, two days after the fire. The accommodations were not highly convenient, however, and the movement for a new City Hall gained force rapidly. Events of the highest interest still point the historian to these rooms, and bid him remember that it was here, on the 15th of April, 1865, at 2 o'clock, P.M., that the City Council met, on perhaps their most solemn occasion, and, with hardly a word of remark, passed their expressive resolves on the death of ABRAHAM LINCOLN. From this place also they went out to attend all the ceremonials that followed, relating to the last honors paid to that great and good man.

At length, the "Johnson estate," on Park Square, having been purchased and cleared, the disused house of Engine Co. No. 3 was removed thither from Broad Street, opposite the foot of Union, and fitted up for the Police Department. Soon after, a similar house, vacated by Engine Co. No. 6, was brought from Lewis Street, northern side, near Chestnut, and, being placed beside the other, on the corner of Essex and Johnson Streets, received the Boards of Council and other departments. In these, as in shepherd's tents, the government dwelt till the completion and dedication of the City Hall. The first building was then removed to Lighton Street, and the second to Summer Street, west of the Saugus Branch Railroad, and both were made into school-houses.

Here terminates our preliminary history. In our own day much of it may seem the recital of things well known; but these things fade quickly from the popular recollection, and we know not how soon the thread may be lost, or who, in coming years, might search, painfully but unsuccessfully, for the facts of our earlier municipal history. Even now it is not without effort that the links can be joined, and the story rightly told. whose moral concerns all our citizens. Of the five buildings where the town once met, only one, the "War Office," remains. The two ancient meeting-houses were torn down, the two Methodist Churches and the Town House were burned. To-day the representatives of our people meet in the first edifice worthy of them and their city, profited and instructed, as we would ever hope, by the varying fortunes of two hundred and forty years.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY.

REPORTS AND ORDERS.

THE following Orders, with Reports from Committees, are from the records of the City Council, showing their action with reference to purchasing a lot of land, building a new City Hall, etc.

The attention of the City Government was first directed to the necessity existing for a new City Hall by the following order :

In Common Council, Feb. 18. 1863, on motion of James S. Lewis, of Ward 4, it was "*Ordered*, That the Committee on Public Property take into consideration the building of a new City Hall, and report thereon." In Board of Aldermen, March 2, on motion of Alderman Patch, of Ward 4, the order was concurred in.

On the above order the Committee on Public Property submitted to the Common Council, on the fourteenth of April, 1863, the following

REPORT.

" That a necessity exists for a new City Hall we think will be very generally admitted. The present building

is unsightly, inconvenient in its arrangements, and quite too small to accommodate the City Government and its various offices. Indeed, it is almost a disgrace.

“ Your committee are unanimously of the opinion that the present City Government should initiate the proceedings necessary to the construction of a building which, while it shall furnish the conveniences necessary to the discharge of the public business, shall, at the same time be an ornament to the city.

“ It may be said by some that while the country is engaged in a war, and our own citizens heavily taxed to bear their share of the public burdens, is not a fitting time to venture upon so costly an enterprise. Its necessity being granted, your committee do not think the objection named of sufficient weight to hinder the prosecution of the work, for while some sections of the country may have suffered largely, it is an undisputed fact that our community have scarcely seen a more prosperous year than the past.

“ Another objection that may be urged is that the building of a new City Hall will largely increase the permanent debt of the city. To meet this objection the committee would suggest that this enterprise should not be undertaken without providing for the expense incurred by a sinking fund, which, while it shall not materially increase the present rate of taxation, shall be sufficient to extinguish the debt incurred thereby in ten or twelve years.

“ The interest of the debt will, in a great part, be met by the occupation of a portion of the building for purposes of a public character, for which we now pay a considerable sum of money in the way of rents. The building can be so constructed that the basement may be used for a lockup, which is an immediate necessity.

and which it has recently been proposed to put in another building, at considerable expense. It may also be used for the keeping of a steam fire engine, should one be procured, and for various other offices connected with the government.

“ If centrally located the building may also accommodate the Public Library, and the several military organizations, rents for the accommodation of which are now an expense to the city.

“ In short, the committee are convinced that the extra interest will be but a small item to add to our current expenses. From a careful consideration of the matter, and from estimates made, they find that a building can be constructed, tasteful in its design, convenient in its arrangements, centrally located, and of sufficient dimensions to meet the wants of our city for many years to come, for a sum not exceeding seventy-five thousand dollars. They therefore recommend the adoption of the accompanying order. All of which is respectfully submitted.”

JOHN L. SHOREY,
JOHN W. BLANEY,
AUGUSTUS B. MARTIN,
WALTER B. ALLEN.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, April 15, 1863.—
The Committee on Public Property, instituted as above, reported the following Order, which was adopted in concurrence :

“ *Ordered*, That a Joint Special Committee be appointed, to consist of His Honor the Mayor and three Aldermen, and five on the part of the Council, whose duty it shall be to obtain plans suitable for a new City Hall, with estimates of the cost of the same. Also, to

consider and report upon a suitable site on which the same shall be built."

The Mayor and Aldermen Shorey, Blaney and Walden, and on the part of the Council, Messrs. Allen, Ingalls, Lewis of Ward 4, Atkins and Winchester were appointed that committee.

In Common Council, July 15, 1863, on motion of Mr. Lewis of Ward 4, it was—" *Ordered*, That the sum of \$15,000 be and is hereby appropriated for the purchase of a lot of land located at the corner of North Common and Essex Streets in this city, known as the 'Johnson Estate,' to be used for the purpose of erecting a new City Hall, and that His Honor the Mayor be authorized, under the direction of the Special Committee of the City Council on the New City Hall, to procure a proper legal conveyance of said lot to the city of Lynn. And it is further *Ordered*, That to meet said appropriation, the City Treasurer be and hereby is duly authorized and instructed to issue bonds of this city to the amount of \$15,000, bearing interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum, payable in twenty years in the manner provided by an Ordinance of this City relating to Permanent Loans, passed Sept. 15, 1862."

The above Order was adopted, in concurrence, in the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, on the same evening.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Dec. 29, 1863,—the Mayor, from the Joint Special Committee, to whom was referred the subject of procuring plans and estimates for building a new City Hall, presented a report which was accepted by this board. and the same con-

curred in by the Council, referring the subject to the next city government.

Mayor Neal in his Address, Jan. 4, 1864, before both branches of the City Council, speaks of the new City Hall as follows:—

“Several matters of great importance will be likely to claim our attention at some time during the present municipal year. Among the first will probably be the construction of a new City Hall. A pressing necessity has long been felt for a more commodious building in which to transact the business of the city, than the one we now occupy. During the last year an opportunity offered for us to secure one of the most desirable sites for such a building that can be found within the precincts of the city. It was purchased at a cost of fifteen thousand dollars; and, although the price may appear large, yet when we consider the many advantages of the location, its proximity to one of our principal business streets, its delightful situation in respect to the Common, and its being so near the centre of population, I think it will be pronounced a wise movement, and will give general satisfaction.

“Even while our country is engaged in putting down one of the most gigantic rebellions that the world ever witnessed—one that would have long since sent any monarch of Europe tottering from his throne—while our resources are so largely drawn upon, and while we have sent our sons to the army by hundreds, we are largely increasing in population and material wealth; and I venture to predict that the year 1874 will find the city of Lynn with forty thousand inhabitants, and a valuation of fifty per cent. more than at the present time.

“The building should therefore be constructed not for our convenience only, but in view of this future increase, and should be paid for in regular yearly instalments, so that the burden shall fall alike upon us and those who will hereafter reap the advantages of such a building. It should be at once large, convenient, chaste, and an ornament to the city, without vain display, and in keeping with the character of our people.

“I presume it will be thought best to procure a loan to pay for the Hall, if you should conclude to erect one the coming season. If so, I should advise that a city ordinance be passed, creating a sinking fund with which to meet these obligations at maturity. It is unwise, in more ways than one, to go into the market with our promises to pay at some distant day, without inaugurating some plan by which the funds will be raised to meet the liabilities.”

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Jan. 11. 1864,—Alderman Shorey from the Joint Special Committee instructed to report what disposition shall be made of the several subjects of the Inaugural Address of the Mayor. presented a report which was accepted by the board and sent down for concurrence—referring as follows. viz: “The subject of erecting a City Hall to a Joint Special Committee, to consist of the Mayor, three Aldermen and five members of the Common Council.” Appointed to constitute the aforesaid committee, the Mayor and Aldermen Shorey, Blaney and Walden on the part of this board. Joined on the part of the Council, the President and members Allen, Pease, Newhall of Ward 4, Watts and Winchester.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Aug. 15. 1864.—

“*Ordered*, That the Committee on Public Property be instructed to consider the expediency of purchasing the land in the rear of the City Hall lot, upon Johnson Street, and report at what price the same can be purchased.” Concurred in Common Council.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Oct. 10, 1864,—
“*Ordered*, in concurrence, That the Joint Special Committee who were instructed by an order of the City Council to obtain plans and estimates for a new City Hall be requested to report at as early a day as a proper consideration of the matter will allow.”

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Oct. 17, 1864,—
Alderman Shorey, from the Committee on Public Property instructed by order of the City Council to consider the expediency of purchasing the land on Johnson St., in the rear of the new City Hall lot, having reported thereon, the following order was adopted and concurred in by the Council, viz :

“*Ordered*, That the sum of six thousand seven hundred dollars be taken from the Contingent Fund, and applied to the purchase of the land, as reported by the Committee on Public Property, to be added to the land known as ‘City Hall Lot.’”

Subsequently seven hundred dollars were added to cover the expenditures.

Mayor Neal in his Inaugural Address delivered Jan. 2, 1865, refers to the new City Hall, as follows :

“The old City Hall was destroyed by fire in October, which would not have been a matter of much serious

consequence, had it not been for the melancholy affair connected with it—the death of Mr. Bond, who perished in the flames. Although I have no idea that the city is liable to the surviving widow for damages, yet if there is any legal way in which we could grant her a gratuity, I should most assuredly be in favor of doing it.

“The destruction of the hall makes it more necessary for us to move in providing a new one. This is a subject that will probably claim your early and serious consideration, as it did of the last City Government; who did not, however, see their way clear to make contracts for erecting such a building as is required, inasmuch as they were burdening the city with a large debt for military purposes. I feel greatly encouraged in the belief that seems to be pretty general among military men, that the present, even, if not the last call for men, is nearly so. When these demands cease, we can well afford larger outlays for improvements that must be made at no very distant day.”

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Jan. 2, 1865,—
An order to provide for the appointment of a Joint Special Committee to report plans and estimates for the speedy erection of a new City Hall came up from the Council, and on motion of Alderman Patch was laid on the table.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Feb. 14, 1865,—
Alderman Allen, from the Joint Special Committee to whom was referred the order relative to the several subjects embraced in the Inaugural Address of the Mayor, presented a report, recommending (among others) the following reference, viz :

“The subject of a new City Hall to a Joint Special

Committee, to consist of two members of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen and three members of the Common Council.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Feb. 20, 1865,—
On motion of Alderman Allen, the order relating to the speedy erection of a new City Hall was taken from the table and considered; and, on motion of Alderman Stacey, the same was non-concurred in.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, March 6, 1865,—
The Joint Special Committee on the subjects of the Inaugural Address of the Mayor, having reported an order in the Council, the same was adopted in concurrence by this Board. as follows, viz:

“*Ordered*, That a Joint Special Committee be appointed, to consist of the Mayor and two Aldermen, and the President and three members of the Common Council, whose duty it shall be to procure plans and estimates in relation to the erection of a City Hall, and report the same to the City Council as soon as practicable.

“And said Committee are hereby authorized to expend, in the execution of their duty, a sum not exceeding fifty dollars, which shall be charged to the amount of contingencies.”

Appointed for said Committee, the Mayor and Aldermen Allen and Stacey. Joined on the part of the Council, members Pease, Doak and Aborn.

“*Ordered*, March 20, 1865, That the above-named Committee sell, at public auction, the dwelling-house

standing upon the City Hall lot, which was purchased of Mr. G. L. Gannage, the proceeds to be paid into the City Treasury."

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, June 19, 1865, — The report of the Joint Special Committee to procure plans and estimates for a new City Hall was read and accepted, and the accompanying order unanimously adopted in concurrence, as follows, viz:

“*Ordered*, That the plans prepared by the Joint Special Committee on the subject of a new City Hall, and this day submitted by Gridley J. F. Bryant and Arthur Gilman, architects, be adopted as being in general conformity with the unanimous views of said Committee, as to the style and requirements of a Hall for the City of Lynn.”

“*Ordered*, That a Building Committee, to consist of the Mayor and two Aldermen, the President and three members of the Common Council, be appointed, and that they be and hereby are authorized and requested to cause the necessary working plans and specifications of the structure to be prepared by the architects, and to cause the foundations and basement walls to be constructed and erected previous to the first day of December of the present year.”

Appointed for said committee, the Mayor, and Aldermen Allen and Stacey. Joined on the part of the Council, the President, and members Pease, Doak and Aborn.

In Common Council, Aug. 28, 1865,—The Special

Committee to whom was referred the duty of building foundation walls and basement story of the New City Hall, have duly attended to the matter, and beg leave to submit the following partial Report and recommendation :

“ According to authority vested in us by vote of City Council, June 13, 1865, we, your committee have contracted for the construction of the foundations, and basement walls of the structure, with Messrs. Edwin Adams and Galvin & Currie, at the price of sixteen thousand six hundred and thirty-four dollars and fifty cents, payable as the work progresses, the city reserving at all times twenty-five per cent., at least, of what the work and materials has actually cost till after the whole job is completed and accepted by the architects and the committee. It will be necessary for us to expend the further sum of \$2,500 for labor and materials, to put on the first floor of the structure and to grade the lot, to complete what you have already authorized us to do before the first of December of the present year. We therefore request you to provide the sum of \$20,000 to enable us to fulfil our contracts with those who are doing the work.

“ Your committee are firmly impressed with the belief that the time has fully arrived for prosecuting with vigor the erection of the City Hall. We believe that contracts for the remainder of the job can be made more favorably this fall than next spring, as contractors can thus have several months in which to procure materials and make all necessary arrangements to complete the structure during the next year. We would therefore ask for authority to put under contract the furnishing of the materials and doing the labor on said City

Hall, agreeably to the working plans and specifications now in process of preparation by the architects, G. F. Bryant & A. Gilman.

For the Committee.

P. M. NEAL, Chairman."

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Aug. 28, 1865,—
A report of the Joint Special Committee on Building a New City Hall came up and was read, and in accordance with a recommendation contained therein, the following order was adopted in concurrence, by a two-thirds vote, by yea and nay, six Aldermen being present and voting in the affirmative:

"Ordered, That the City Treasurer be and hereby is authorized to borrow, for a term not exceeding two years, the sum of twenty thousand dollars, and to give notes of the City therefor. Said sum, or such part thereof as may be required, to be expended under the direction of the Joint Special Committee, for constructing the foundation and basement of the new City Hall, to defray the expense thereof, and for plans and specifications prepared by Messrs. Bryant and Gilman, architects."

On motion of Alderman Patch, an order reported by the above-named committee, on the erection of a New City Hall, authorizing said committee to put the building under contract, to be completed the first of January, 1867, was laid on the table. Assigned for consideration at the next regular meeting of the board, together with said Report, so far as the same relates to the general contract.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Sept. 4, 1865.—The report of the Joint Special Committee on new City Hall was taken from the table and the accompanying order relating to contracting for the completion of the whole building, was read and considered, and on motion of Alderman Breed, the same was adopted, by a yeas and nays vote, as follows, viz: yeas, Aldermen Allen, Breed, Lewis, Newhall, Patch and Stacey; absent Aldermen Paul and Tapley.

“*Ordered*, in concurrence, That the Joint Special Committee on the erection of the new City Hall heretofore authorized to contract for the foundations and basement walls of the building, be and they are hereby authorized and instructed to contract for the remaining works of the structure necessary for the erecting and enclosing the skeleton, and for the interior finish thereof—said contract to be awarded, under public advertisements, to responsible and competent mechanics, and to be made with special reference to having so much of the work and material prepared during the coming autumn and winter as may be consistent with proper construction, to enable active operations to be commenced above the basement story of the building in early spring of 1866, with the hope that such progress may be made as to admit of inaugurating the government of 1867 in the new structure.”

On the 28th of December, 1865, the following report was accepted:

“The Committee on Building City Hall, to whom was referred the building of the same, have duly considered the matter, and beg leave to submit the accompanying report.

“According to order of City Government, your committee desired to place the whole building under contract before the close of the present year; but as yet they have only contracted for building the foundation and basement story. The plans and specifications have been prepared, and bids for building have been called for. — which were opened on Saturday, the 16th inst. : but as they were not satisfactory to the committee, in their present form, it is deemed most expedient to refer the bids, and the whole matter of completing the Hall, to the next City Government.

For the Committee.

P. M. NEAL, Chairman.”

The Common Council accepted the above report Dec. 29.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Dec. 28, 1865.— The Mayor, from the Joint Special Committee to whom was referred the subject of erecting a new City Hall, presented a report, which was accepted and sent down for concurrence, recommending the reference of said subject, together with the plans and specifications, and the proposals to build, to the next City Government.

Acceptance of the report and reference of the subject concurred.

Mayor Usher, in his Inaugural Address before the City Council, Jan. 1, 1866, makes the following statement in regard to the City Hall :

“Within the past year the basement of the City Hall has been placed under contract, and at the present time is near completion. Proposals have been solicited for

the completion of the building, but what progress has been made I am unable to say. No little credit is due to the retiring government for the promptness and energy they have brought to bear upon this work. I trust nothing will be found wanting to push the matter to an early completion, and thus furnish another evidence of our enterprise and increasing prosperity. That the structure, when completed, under the plans adopted, will present to our citizens a building of such architectural beauty as shall be an honor to our city, none who have examined those plans can, I think, fail to admit."

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Jan. 8, 1866. — Alderman Allen offered the following order, which was adopted and sent down for concurrence, viz.:

"*Ordered*, That a Joint Special Committee be appointed, to consist of the Mayor, three Aldermen, the President and five members of the Common Council, who shall have charge of all papers, materials, or other matters connected with the building of a new City Hall, commenced last year upon the lot opposite Park Square in this city; said committee to be intrusted with the expenditure of all funds which have been provided or which may hereafter be appropriated for building said Hall, and also with the superintendence of the work, to see that the conditions of the contracts already made for constructing the basement of said building are faithfully observed, and the work done as seasonably as may be.

"That the plans, specifications and contracts commenced, and in part completed, under the direction of a similar committee last year, be perfected and carried through, to the end that said City Hall may be built

and finished as soon as may be deemed consistent with the proper and thorough performance of the intended work." Adopted in concurrence Jan. 11.

Appointed for said committee on the part of this Board: the Mayor, and Aldermen Allen, Stacey, and Pease. Joined on the part of the Council: the President, and members Warren, Sweetser, Davis, Doak and Lewis.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, June 25, 1866.—The Joint Special Committee on New City Hall, to whom was referred the plans, specifications, and other papers pertaining thereto, together with proposals received by the City Government of 1865, respectfully submit the following

REPORT.

"Immediately after the organization of your committee, in January last, they proceeded to examine and review the reports and action of their predecessors, and to revise the estimates received by them for the completion of the building above the basement. Feeling something of the responsibility of their position, the extent of the work committed to them, the present and future reputation of the city as marked by the character of its public buildings,—not only our pressing, immediate wants, but with an eye to the future requirements of a growing city, whose energy and enterprise are fast centralizing the business in which we are especially engaged—the peculiar attractions of our city as a place of residence—all mark the time as not far distant when our population shall be counted at fifty thousand and more. With a business staple.

though subject to fluctuations, as all other branches, yet steadily increasing; with marked individual enterprise and energy among our people; with the fact that the present plan was unanimously adopted by our predecessors, after no little consideration, — the times, circumstances, and condition of things generally have impressed upon your committee the imperative duty of contracting for the work and materials required in constructing the walls and roofing in of the same during the present year, notwithstanding the cost of the building will considerably exceed the estimates made at the commencement of the enterprise.

“They arrived at this conclusion after frequent and protracted consultations, calling to their aid the best mechanical advisers, and seeking such other information as was within their power.

“It being believed that proposals might be obtained more favorable, in many respects, than those heretofore submitted, new proposals were solicited, and your committee are gratified in being able to report that all contracts thus far closed by them — embracing freestone, brick work, iron and carpentry — have been made at a reduction, for the same work, from the lowest bids of 1865. In the item of freestone alone upwards of ten thousand dollars has been saved to the city by the correct judgment of the committee of last year, in declining to accept the lowest offers made.

“Your committee have yet to contract for the items of slating, trimming, coppering, gutters and conductors, necessary for the completion of the exterior of the building. We are fully of the opinion, however, that contracts as favorable, or more so, can be entered into early in the fall as at the present time, — which is quite as soon as any of the respective works above named

will be required. It is the full intention of your committee, and so named in their instructions to the architect, that under no circumstances is the inclosure of the skeleton of the building to be delayed or left incomplete beyond Dec. 1, 1866. They have accordingly directed all contracts to be drawn with strict reference to the full accomplishment of this end, and affixed penalties in each contract for any failure of the same.

“Your committee would further report, that it is their intention, under the authority vested in their predecessors, and continued to themselves by vote of the City Council, to arrange for the completion of the interior of the building before the close of the present year. By so doing, the contractors will be enabled to avail themselves of the winter months for preparation, and apply the same in the early spring of 1867; believing that under this arrangement the structure can be completed during the year 1867.

“Your committee have awarded contracts as follows : Freestone, to Messrs. Galvin and Currie, for the sum of \$52,500; brick work, to Edwin Adams, for the sum of \$26,900; carpentry, to J. W. Tewksbury, for the sum of \$11,775; iron work, to Messrs. Smith and Lovett, for the sum of \$2,600.

“To meet these contracts, it is necessary that an appropriation be made, and your committee respectfully ask that the sum of \$100,000 be thus appropriated, for the purpose named, and also recommend the adoption of the accompanying order.

R. G. USHER,
Chairman Com. on New City Hall.”

“*Ordered*, That the Joint Standing Committee on Finance be, and hereby are, instructed to investigate

and report as to the best mode to be adopted by the City Council to procure a loan of \$100,000, the same to be appropriated to meet contracts made on new City Hall."

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, July 12, 1866,—The Mayor, from the Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the subject of procuring a loan for the new City Hall, presented a report, which was accepted, and the accompanying order adopted by a two-thirds vote, by yea and nay, and the same subsequently concurred by the Council, as follows, viz. :

"Ordered, That the sum of one hundred thousand dollars be, and hereby is, appropriated for the new City Hall; and to meet this appropriation the City Treasurer be, and hereby is instructed, under direction of the Committee on Finance, to negotiate a loan of one hundred thousand dollars, by issuing city bonds to run twenty years from date of bonds, with coupons attached, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum, interest payable semi-annually."

The following report was accepted in the Board of Aldermen and in Common Council, Dec. 31, 1866 :

"The Joint Special Committee on New City Hall report that since their last report, respecting the contracts made for the construction of the walls, roofing, and skeleton carpentry of the building, they have placed the interior finish and tower under the supervision of J. W. Tewksbury, Esq., and that the works are now progressing as rapidly as the same will allow.

"Your committee would recommend that the plans.

specifications, contracts and records of the committee, together with all other papers relating thereto, be referred to the next City Government.

R. G. USHER, Chairman Committee."

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Jan. 9, 1867, —
“*Ordered*, in concurrence, That the contracts, plans and specifications, and all other papers relating to the new City Hall, be taken from the files of last year and referred to a Joint Special Committee, consisting of the Mayor and three Aldermen, the President and five members of the Council. Also, that said committee are hereby instructed to use every endeavor to secure the completion of the building during the present municipal year.”

Appointed to constitute the aforesaid committee, the Mayor, and Aldermen Allen, Stacey and Pease; the President, and members Walden, Sweetser, Johnson, Stacey and Warren.

Mayor Usher, in his Inaugural Address, Jan. 7, 1867, before both branches of the City Council, speaks of the new City Hall as follows: —

“Within the past year the cellar and basement of the new City Hall have been completed, and the freestone and brick masonry for the walls, together with the roofing and the skeleton carpentry, have been placed under contract. This portion of the building is fast approaching completion, and gives our citizens some conception of what the building will be when finished in accordance with the plans adopted. To meet the expense of the contracts referred to, an appropriation of \$100,000 was

made last year, for which six per cent. twenty-year bonds, with coupons attached, were issued.

“The completion of the interior (and tower) of the building has been placed under the supervision of James W. Tewksbury, Esq., of this city, and we are encouraged to believe that the building will be ready for occupancy on the assembling of the city government for 1868. To carry on the work another appropriation will be necessary. I would recommend a further appropriation of \$100,000, in six per cent. twenty-year bonds, for this purpose, with an addition of \$20,000, on account of cellar and basement, which falls due the present year, making the total issue \$120,000. These, with those heretofore issued, will make an aggregate of \$220,000 in six per cent. twenty-year bonds,—\$100,000 to mature in 1886; \$120,000 in 1887. To meet these bonds at the time of their falling due, I would recommend the setting aside of a certain amount annually (the same to be derived from the corporate tax), which sum, with the accumulated interest, should equal the amount of said bonds at maturity; this sinking fund to be placed in the hands of commissioners duly appointed for that purpose. To thus provide for such annual and permanent appropriation, it will be necessary to apply to the Legislature for authority. By the establishment of such a fund, these bonds would be met with little or no embarrassment to the city,—the annual appropriation for this purpose being so small (less than \$7,000), it would cause but a trifling inconvenience, and would add but a small per centum to the amount raised by taxation. This plan equalizes also the burdens arising from the liquidation of so large a debt, as the tax-payers of the next twenty years will share with us their proportion of the expense. It would be both injudicious

and unjust for us to pay the entire expense, and equally so to do nothing towards such liquidation."

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Jan. 21, 1867, —
On motion of Alderman Pease, the following order was adopted and sent down for concurrence, viz. :

"Ordered, That the Mayor be, and hereby is, requested to petition the Legislature, in behalf of the City Council, for authority to create a sinking fund by the laying of an assessment of six thousand dollars upon the real and personal property of this city annually; the first assessment to be laid the present year, and continued as above for twenty successive years, the same to be placed in the hands of three or more commissioners, elected by the City Council, who shall invest the same annually, and the accrued interest semi-annually.

"Also, that the principal and accumulated interest of the same shall be pledged to the payment of bonds already issued, on account of the new City Hall, at maturity, and to the payment of any other bonds that may be issued for the completion of said building, and to no other purpose, excepting such balance as may appear to be on hand after the above-named bonds have been paid and taken up."

Adopted in concurrence by the Council.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Jan. 29, 1867, —
The following order was adopted in concurrence by a yea and nay vote, viz. :

"Ordered, That the sum of one hundred thousand dollars be, and hereby is, appropriated to defray the

expense of finishing the new City Hall, the same to be expended under the direction of the Joint Special Committee on said building.

“Also, that the further sum of twenty thousand dollars be, and hereby is, appropriated for the payment of notes authorized to be given on account of the cellar and basement of the building, in the year 1865, and falling due the present year.

“And that the City Treasurer, to meet the above-named appropriations, be, and hereby is, authorized to negotiate a loan of \$120,000, by issuing city bonds, with coupons attached, and bearing interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum; to run twenty years from the date of said bonds, with interest payable semi-annually.”

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Aug. 5, 1867, —
The Mayor, from the Joint Special Committee on New City Hall, presented the following report, which was accepted :

“Your committee will further report, that they have made a careful estimate respecting the additional appropriations needed to carry on the work to completion, including the furnishing of the building, fencing, grading of the lot, etc., and feel quite confident that it will not exceed the sum called for in the order reported (\$57,000), thereby bringing the entire cost of the establishment within the sum of \$300,000.

“Your committee also take pleasure in reporting that they see no reason, at present, why the building will not be ready for occupancy by the last of November next.

R. G. USHER,

Chairman Joint Special Committee.”

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Aug. 5, 1867,—
“*Ordered*, That a sum not exceeding \$57,000, or such portion of the same as may be necessary, be and the same is hereby appropriated to defray the expense of finishing the new City Hall, the same to be expended under the direction of the Joint Special Committee on said building.

“And that the City Treasurer, to meet the above appropriation, be and hereby is authorized to issue and negotiate city bonds, with coupons attached, payable semi-annually, said bonds bearing interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum, and payable on the 15th day of February, 1887.”

Adopted by a two-thirds vote, by yea and nay, seven Aldermen voting in the affirmative, one absent. Concurred in like manner by the Council, Aug. 8.

On the 23d of September, 1867, both branches accepted the following report, and adopted the accompanying order:

“The Joint Special Committee on New City Hall respectfully report, that the building is so far advanced toward completion as to warrant them in recommending the appointment of the 30th day of November next for the dedication of the same.

R. G. USHER, Chairman Committee.”

“*Ordered*, That the Joint Special Committee on New City Hall be, and hereby are, authorized to make the necessary arrangements for appropriate exercises on the occasion of the dedication of the building, on the 30th of November next.”

The following report was accepted by both branches, Jan. 2, 1868:

“A portion of the basement story is not yet finished, and the fixtures for the Public Library are still to be placed in the hall.

“The exterior work, including fencing and grading, also remains to be done when the opening of another season will admit.

“The last contract (that for the iron fence and stone gateway) is now definitely closed. All the principal contractors, whose work has been ended, have been settled with, and no instance of litigation or dispute has thus far arisen.

“Your committee would recommend that the next City Council should, immediately after their organization, appoint the committee who are to succeed us in the charge of the unsettled matters pertaining to the establishment, and would also beg leave to recommend that all papers connected with the enterprise be referred to the City Council of 1868.

R. G. USHER, Chairman Committee.”

[NOTE. — The following is the Report of the Joint Special Committee, introducing the plans of the new edifice, and referred to on p. 10, second paragraph, but not there cited.]

IN COMMON COUNCIL, *June* 13, 1865.

The undersigned, members of the Joint Special Committee to whom was referred the matter of procuring plans and specifications of a new City Hall, having

fully considered the subject committed to them, now ask leave to

REPORT.

Your Committee consider it needless for them to do more than allude to the strong necessity which has long existed for suitable accommodation for nearly all the branches of the city government of Lynn. The only building which has ever been used for the purpose — previous to our present temporary occupancy of hired premises — was the old Town Hall, originally erected on the Common as long ago as the year 1814. A common frame building, of no particular beauty of appearance or convenience of arrangement, it was removed to South Common Street in the year 1832, and repaired, but not materially enlarged or otherwise improved on the formation of the city government in 1850. It was destroyed by fire in the month of October, 1864, and we are therefore at present without any provision for a suitable or convenient municipal structure.

The necessity of seeking more spacious and proper quarters than those afforded in the old Town Hall building, even before its destruction, had been agitated by the successive governments of our city for several years. As far back as the year 1859, it will be recollected that the matter was referred to the people, and the citizens were then requested to decide at the polls whether or not they would undertake the building of a new Hall at that time. The question was then decided by a large majority against the proposition. But with the growth and rapid improvement of the city a considerable change in the feeling then expressed seems to have been effected in the minds of our community. The subject was again brought up in the year 1863, in

a more decided form, and a lot was then purchased, which is believed to present one of the most appropriate and beautiful locations for the purpose to be found within the limits of the city. Several plans were obtained at that time, but none of them in a fully matured form, and the prices of work and material becoming so excessively high, the matter was finally referred to the next city government, for such continued action as should appear to be warranted by the circumstances of the time.

Another committee was accordingly appointed in the year 1864, and the consideration of the subject was resumed by them, and continued, with more or less of attention, through a good portion of the municipal year. After bestowing much thought and attention upon the matter of plans, the subject was laid on the table in the Board of Aldermen, and thus no decided action was reached upon the main question in that year.

With the commencement of the present municipal year the matter has again come up for consideration, and a Joint Special Committee was appointed, with the generally expressed expectation that decided measures of progress should be taken by them during their appointed term of office. Convinced that the true interests of the city require the erection, at an early day, of a neat and commodious City Hall, equal not only to the present, but, in a fair and reasonable degree, to the future and prospective wants of the city, your committee have felt that it behooved them to proceed with their duties without delay. Messrs. G. J. F. Bryant and A. Gilman, Architects of the City Hall of Boston, and of many other widely known public and private structures in this vicinity, were accordingly called upon for plans for a suitable edifice, and, under the continued instruction and supervision of your committee, have produced

the designs which are herewith presented for your approval.

It may not be improper for your committee to state, in this connection, that they have arrived at this conclusion with great and perhaps unusual unanimity. They believe that they have caused to be prepared a plan embodying the matured convictions of their best judgment, arrived at after very considerable comparison and discussion, and one which has been designed and arranged under their own immediate direction and superintendence. Several of your committee have had considerable experience personally — extending over quite a lengthened term of inquiry — into the various requirements of a structure like the one now proposed, as well as into the best and most feasible methods of meeting these requirements in a satisfactory manner. Aided by the advice and assistance of several of the city officers, — particularly in regard to the relative position and accommodation of the several apartments, — they are led to believe that they have availed themselves with considerable thoroughness of whatever information is likely to be most practically useful in a subject involving, it must be admitted, many, at first sight, apparently difficult details of distribution, economy and taste.

As a concise and convenient mode of conveying a summary of the arrangement, accommodation and style of the proposed structure, we append the following letter of description which accompanied the plans, as drawn up by the architects for our information. Taken in connection with the plans and perspective view herewith presented, it is believed that it will suffice to give a correct idea of the more important items for which we have endeavored to make provision.

[Here follows a very full statement by the architects, now omitted, as being found substantially in another part of this volume. The report concludes]: —

Such is a brief outline of the character and arrangement of the building, which, in the opinion of your committee, will meet the wants and accommodate the municipal business of our city for some time to come. They believe that if contracted for in a prudent and economical manner, and of suitable materials, it will fully satisfy the just expectations of the public, and reflect credit on all concerned in its erection.

P. M. NEAL,	}	Committee.
JESSE L. ATTWILL,		
THOMAS STACEY,		
WALTER B. ALLEN,		
BENJ. F. DOAK, 2d,		
EDWARD PEASE,		
C. H. ABORN.		

SINKING-FUND ACT.

An appropriate conclusion to this part of our history is found in the Act of the Legislature of 1867, chap. 95, by which provision was made for payment of the cost of the new structure. The Act is as follows:—

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF LYNN TO PROVIDE FOR A SINKING FUND.

Be it enacted, &c., as follows:—

SECTION 1. The City of Lynn is hereby authorized to raise by taxation, upon the polls and estates in said city, a sum not less than six thousand dollars, nor more than ten thousand dollars, annually, until the maturity of the bonds hereafter mentioned, which said sum, with the interest and accumulations thereon, shall constitute a sinking-fund, for the redemption at maturity of the bonds of said city which have been or hereafter may be issued to raise funds to pay for the City Hall now building in said city: and said sinking-fund shall be appropriated and pledged to the payment and redemption of said bonds, and for no other purpose, until the same shall have been fully redeemed.

SECT. 2. The City Council of said city, by the concurrent vote of the two branches thereof, is authorized to appoint three commissioners of said sinking-fund, who shall have the care and management of all the moneys, funds and securities at any time belonging to said sinking-fund, and who also shall, from time to time, invest the same in the bonds of said city, the public securities of the United States, either of the New England States, and of the State of New York, and of the counties, cities, and towns of this Commonwealth, in any railroad stocks in which savings banks may invest their funds, in the stock of any bank located in this Commonwealth, and in loans secured by mortgage of real estate; and they may sell, transfer, and re-invest from time to time, the stock and securities belonging to said fund.

SECT. 3. Said commissioners shall keep a true record of all their proceedings, and annually, in the month of January, make a report in writing to the City Council of said city, of the amount and condition of said fund and the income thereof for the year; which record, and all the securities belonging to said fund, shall at all times be open to the inspection of the Mayor, or any committee of either branch of the City Council of said city appointed for that purpose.

SECT. 4. At the first election of commissioners, one shall be chosen to hold office for the term of three years, one for the term of two years, and one for the term of one year, and in each year thereafter one commissioner shall be chosen, to hold office for three years; and in case of a vacancy by death, resignation, or otherwise, such vacancy shall be filled by the choice of some person to hold office during the unexpired term. The necessary expenses of said commissioners shall be paid

by said city, but they shall receive no compensation for their services.

SECT. 5. The balance of said sinking-fund, if any there be after the payment of said bonds, shall be paid into the treasury of said city.

(APPROVED MARCH 23, 1867.)

Under the provisions of the above Act there were elected, Sept. 9, 1867, as the Commissioners therein mentioned, William S. Boyce,* Amos P. Tapley,† and Henry Newhall,‡ Esqs. The successive re-elections have been of the same persons, who are still in office.

* President First National Bank.

† President National City Bank.

‡ President Central National Bank.

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LAYING THE CORNER STONE.

LAYING THE CORNER STONE.

THE construction of the foundation walls of the new building were sufficiently advanced by Tuesday, the 28th of November, 1865, to allow the corner stone to be laid, and that day was accordingly selected for the exercises proper to that occasion. Those in charge of the work had conceived the design of introducing the prescribed Masonic ceremonies usual in such cases; but a feeling of popular opposition to this having shown itself in a remonstrance addressed to the City Council, the plan was relinquished.

For the simple proceedings that remained, there was given a fine autumnal day, cool and clear, one well adapted to any exercises that might have been preferred. But slight announcement had been made, and the company assembled was correspondingly small. Those passing stopped to see and hear, and perhaps a hundred persons were present in all. At twelve o'clock, noon, the Mayor, PETER M. NEAL, Esq., took his place upon the foundation at the north-easterly corner, and after a few remarks appropriate to the occasion, introduced Rev. CHARLES W. BIDDLE,* chaplain of the day.

Mr. BIDDLE proceeded to offer prayer in feeling and impressive terms, seeking the Divine favor for the edi-

* Then, as now, pastor of the First Universalist Church, Union Street.

fice, its purposes and its uses, for those who built, and those who should occupy its halls, and as well for the people in whose behalf and in whose interest the enterprise had been designed.

Mayor NEAL then stated that the metallic box intended for deposit beneath the stone had been prepared and sealed up, containing a variety of documents of local and historical interest. A list of these would appear in the newspapers. It only remained to place them where they were intended to lie.

The box was then placed in the cavity prepared for it, the stone swung to its position by the workmen, the trowel did its work, and the people quietly went their ways.

The list of documents was afterwards given, with an account of the proceedings, in the *Lynn Weekly Reporter* of the ensuing Saturday, Dec. 2. From this article we quote the following portion, as supplying some points of history not before given : —

“ The box which has been referred to was of copper, made double, with a layer of charcoal between the two walls. The outside dimensions were $10\frac{1}{2}$ by $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches, with a depth of five inches ; the inside, about an inch less each way. This box contained the following documents : —

A complete list of all soldiers and sailors who enlisted from 1861 to 1865 for the quota of Lynn, and who served in the United States Army or Navy ; Municipal Registers of 1864 and 1865 ; autographs of the Building Committee of New City Hall ; photographs of New City Hall, with names of the architects ; Inaugural Address of Mayor, 1865 ; Reports of School Committee, Chief Engineer of Fire Department, Committee on Accounts, Commissioners of Pine Grove Cemetery, City Physician, Chief of Police, and City Treasurer, for 1864 ; Lynn Directory, and Map of the City ; President Lincoln's

Emancipation Proclamation, and last Message to Congress; photograph of President Lincoln; History of Lynn, by Lewis and Newhall; copies of the Lynn Reporter and Lynn Bulletin; specimens of postal currency, copper and silver coins, and postage and revenue stamps; Revised Ordinances of the City; Massachusetts Acts and Resolves of 1865.

Besides the above, the following interesting historical address, prepared by the Mayor, and which would have been delivered by him had the other ceremonies taken place as originally designed, was placed in the box, by request of the members of the Building Committee and other citizens: —

Mr. Chairman. — In conformity with arrangements previously made by the Building Committee appointed by the City Council, in your presence, gentlemen, and in the presence of this large concourse of our fellow-citizens, at your request, sir, on this 28th day of November, 1865, we will proceed to perform the agreeable duty of laying the corner stone of a new City Hall for the City of Lynn.

Gentlemen of the City Council. — The Building Committee have so far carried out your orders as to contract for laying the foundation walls and for building the basement story of this Hall. Such progress has been made, it becomes necessary, if done at all, in conformity with an old established usage, to deposit under the corner stone some little memento of the present time, — some keepsakes, some messages of love to our children's children, — to be read and pondered by them long years after we have passed away. The thought to me, though solemn, is a pleasing one, that many years hence, when these walls shall be destroyed and this box removed, the contents will be preserved and treasured as a rich gift from the fathers of 1865 to their children of 19—.

I am happy to state that the committee have bestowed much patient labor, not only upon the plans they have presented to you, and which you have adopted, but upon many others. They have combined, compared, arranged and re-arranged, and, with the assistance of the architects, G. J. F. Bryant and Arthur Gilman, they have presented to you, with much confidence, plans nearly perfect in all their parts.

The architects have been indefatigable in their exertions to carry out the ideas and suggestions of the committee; and the committee, in their turn, have placed full confidence in the architects. By a concert of action, a building has been designed just such as we desired,—convenient in its arrangements, not too ostentatious, not a jot too simple, but in harmony with the tastes and republican ideas of our citizens.

This building is to be used for various municipal purposes, and for the accommodation of the Free Public Library, which, though now in its incipient state, is yet of sufficient magnitude to form a nucleus around which I hope ere long to see gathered a collection of books that may afford a means of improvement to the young, and a source of pleasure and profit to us all in our declining years. And I take this opportunity of bespeaking for it the favorable consideration, not only of future municipal governments, but of those of our citizens who have the means to spare, that they may fill up the shelves and alcoves of the splendid room designed for it in the building whose corner stone we are now about to lay.

Gentlemen. — It seems quite appropriate to the occasion, when the city for the first time is about to erect for itself a City Hall, to revert to the history of the only building ever owned by it, and used for the meetings of the city government. The first notice I find in reference to a Town House was at a town meeting held in the Methodist meeting-house at Woodend, May 3, 1813,* when the following vote was passed:—

“*Voted*, That the Selectmen provide a place for to do the business of the next town meeting in, and at said meeting to let the town know what the prospect is of future meetings where they can be called.”

At a subsequent meeting, held Dec. 27, 1813, it was voted to choose a committee of seven persons, for the purpose of fixing on a suitable spot for the erection of a Town House on the town's land. And the Selectmen—Henry Hallowell, Nehemiah Silsbee and William Jackson, together with Zachariah Attwill, Joseph Fuller, 3d, Harris Chadwell and Amariah Childs—were chosen a building committee, and clothed with power to contract with some carpenter or carpenters for building the house, on a plan sufficiently large to accommodate the town, the contract stipulating to have the building raised, boarded, shingled and clapboarded, and the windows in; also such

* There is a slight error here, either in the original document or the printed copy, and as it cannot now be known which, no alteration is made. But the meeting of May 3d was certainly held in the First Methodist Church, as has been stated on p. x. The one on the 27th of the next December was the one, and the only one, held at Woodend.

fixtures inside as in their opinion will answer for the spring meeting, and that the person or persons who may contract to build the said house shall agree with said committee to have the same completed as above, on or before the twentieth day of March next, and the said committee report their doings at the next annual March meeting." It was also voted to direct the Town Treasurer to obtain on loan a sum of money, not exceeding two thousand dollars, and at a rate of interest not exceeding six per cent., for carrying the above votes or business into effect.

The warrant for the town meeting, dated March 12, 1814, called on the legal voters to assemble on the 21st inst. at the Town House. This was the first town meeting held in the building.

On the 4th of April, 1814, at a town meeting held in the Town House, it was "voted to have a cellar under the Town House, and that the committee who were appointed to build said house contract with some person for said cellar." (This vote was reconsidered at the May meeting following.)

Voted, also, that "the same committee build a seat or seats in the chamber of said house as they shall think proper."

At a meeting held May 2, 1814, it was voted that "the Selectmen be directed to finish a room on the lower flower of the Town House, for the Selectmen and Assessors to do business in." Also voted "to grant liberty to all the companies in town on training days, to use the Town House to exercise and do business in, during the pleasure of the town."

There is an article in the warrant for the town meeting of Aug. 15, 1814, of which the following is a copy:—

"To see if the town will omit finishing a room in their Town House until another year, as materials for the same will come very high."

And at the meeting it was voted to omit finishing the room.

The following report was accepted by the town, Nov. 7, 1814:—

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Lyun in Town Meeting assembled:

We, your committee, who were appointed on the 27th of December last, for the purpose of fixing on a suitable spot on the town's land for the erection of a Town House, and also to contract with some carpenter or carpenters for building said house, do now report that we have contracted with Timothy Munroe to build said house, 58 feet by 44 feet, and 24 feet posts, with a hip roof, with 30 win-

dows of 24 lights of 9 by 12 glass, and to complete the outside of said house ; also to lay one floor, and find all the materials, for the sum of \$1645.00

Also since have contracted with the said Munroe to lay the other floor for 75.00

Your committee have also contracted with David Galucia to underpin said house, to find the steps for cash down* for 280.00

We have also contracted with James Pool to point the underpinning of said house for 10.44

Likewise contracted with said Munroe for the seats, platform and stairs, for 66.25

For Harris Chadwell's assistance. 6.00

Total, \$2082.69

All which is done to the satisfaction of the committee, and now offer to the town for their acceptance.

HENRY HALLOWELL.	} <i>Committee.</i>
NEHEMIAH SILSBEE.	
JONA. MAKEPEACE.	
HARRIS CHADWELL.	
ZACH. ATTWILL.	
AMARIAH CHILDS.	
JOSEPH FULLER, 3D.	}

Thus you will perceive, gentlemen, that something more than one-half a century ago the then town of Lynn built a Town House, under circumstances that bear a striking analogy — in one respect at least — to the condition in which we find ourselves placed at the present time. The country was then at war with Great Britain ; large outlays were made by the town for military purposes ; for I find on record, under date of Aug. 15, 1814, a vote authorizing the payment of ten dollars per month to each officer and soldier, in addition to government pay, while they were in the service of the United States. It was also voted to allow one dollar per night to each man who had performed the duty of night guard. These last two votes were at the same meeting that voted to reconsider the order whereby the Selectmen were directed to finish a room for their accommodation on the

* Another small error. In the Town Record the words "for cash down" read very plainly "for each door," which is more intelligible. The name, also, is *Daniel* Galeucia, and not David.

lower floor of the Town House. They too said, "Our first duty is to the soldier, — to support him and his family while he is fighting the battles of his country. We must first see whether we are to be a free people, or whether we are again to come under the dominion of a foreign power. We can afford to wait, and hold our meetings in an unfinished house, till the greater question is settled." And they did wait, till they knew that England could not control them, could not destroy their nationality, and it was in the last years of the war that they ventured the outlay for building the outer walls only of the Town House. The country had been at war for several years, although a formal declaration was not made till 1812; yet the embargo that was laid in 1807 was more disastrous than actual open hostility.

We, too, have commenced this new City Hall in the last year of our great struggle for freedom. The subject was agitated in 1863, and this lot purchased, added to in 1864, and an order passed in 1865 directing the committee to place the building under contract. Your city governments of 1863 and '64 could hardly feel themselves justified in making so large an expenditure as would be necessary to build a City Hall such as was demanded by our growing and thriving city, so long as such heavy demands were made upon us to support the government in its gigantic struggle to establish its rule over those misguided individuals who had revolted from wholesome laws and sought to destroy us as a nation. Although we never had a doubt as to the final result of the contest, yet we knew not how large would be the demands upon our resources before the war could be brought to a successful close. Therefore we, too, concluded to wait, and transact our business in very limited apartments, rented for the purpose, till we, too, could see the end.

The History of Lynn says that the old Town House stood on the centre of the Common, nearly opposite the head of Hanover Street, where it remained till 1832, when it was removed to the spot on which it was burned, Oct. 6, 1864; since which time Blossom Street has been laid out over the spot where it once stood, — the building of late years graced with the name of City Hall. After it was removed, the hall in the building was finished, and was for many years the largest and almost the only hall in town for lectures, lyceums, and exhibitions of all kinds. Again, in 1850, on the formation of the city government, it underwent extensive repairs and alterations; but for the last fourteen years of its existence but slight changes were made in the building to which we were all so much attached by our early recollections of election days and May trainings.

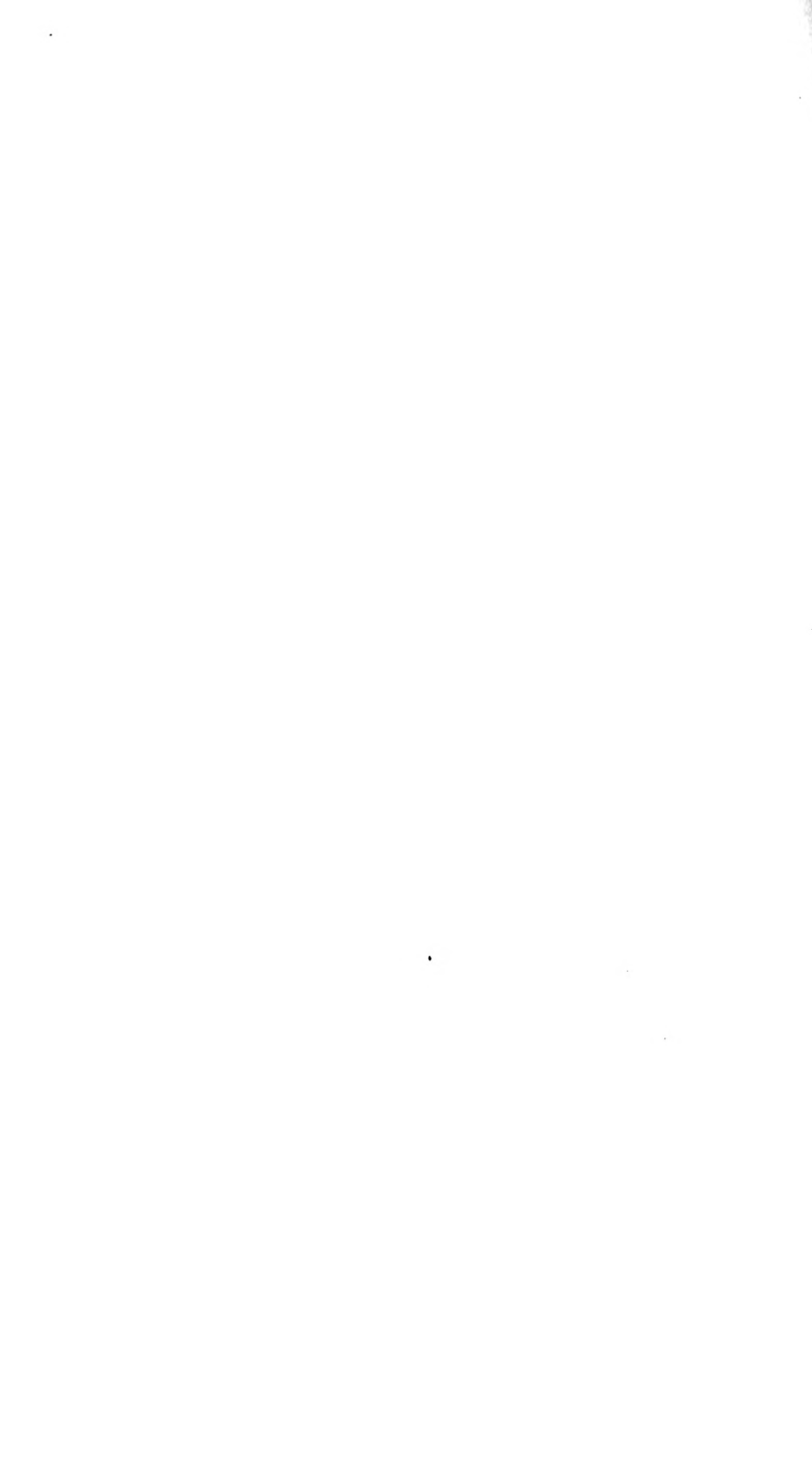
During the last ten years the city government have frequently agitated the subject of a new City Hall. They have generally been convinced that at no very distant day it would be a matter of necessity to provide more ample accommodations for the increasing business of the various departments. In the old Hall, much less in our present quarters, the various important committees (of which there are many) could with difficulty find room in which to deliberate upon important matters that were referred to them for their consideration and action.

One of the distinctive features in this building is the fire-proof room for the preservation of the public records and archives of the city. Their destruction would be an irreparable loss, both to ourselves and our children. Better spend twice what the whole structure will cost than suffer them to be lost.

A new era has commenced for Lynn. We have passed, and are still passing, through a transition state. Witness the introduction of steam power all over the city, the removal of buildings, which a few years ago were considered ample for their purposes, and the erection of more costly and extensive ones upon their sites; new avenues are opened, and others in prospect; old streets widened and extended; and now a new City Hall is to be built, that would do credit to any city in the Union. The city, in its corporate capacity, must expect to be called upon to do more in the future than it has in times past, for improvements. An impetus has been given to trade and manufactures within the past few years unparalleled in our history. We have been driven along with wonderful rapidity towards the goal of affluence. The improvements in our individual interests must be met with corresponding improvements by the city, in order to develop all the resources that our envied position as a manufacturing community has given us.

I do not deem it expedient for me, gentlemen, on this occasion, to give a description of the building about to be erected. The designs, drawings and specifications can be seen and examined by any one at his leisure, and I trust that by another year we shall see upon this spot the valuable building itself; and I only hope that it will be acceptable to you all, and that you will continue to prosper, and live to enjoy it for many years."

CEREMONIES OF DEDICATION.



CEREMONIES OF DEDICATION

SATURDAY, Nov. 30, 1867, having been decided on as the day on which the new City Hall should be dedicated, was looked for with great interest by all classes of the citizens of Lynn. The evening before was mild, and a plentiful rain threatened to intrude upon the festivities, but it cleared away rather abruptly during the night, and the morning broke clear and brilliant, with cooler temperature and sharp, invigorating air.

Energetic preparations had been made, and the edifice was opened to the public at an early hour, in fine condition. In the basement some inconspicuous portions remained unfinished; but all the upper part of the building was complete to the last touch. The whole was finely decorated. The national ensign waved from every side of the tower, and three other and larger copies of the "old flag" swung from the railing of the portico. A smaller one was also noticed in a prominent place, being that set on the summit of the tower by Master Arthur W., son of E. Quincy Bacheller, Esq., when the framework was first raised. The colors were also variously displayed in the interior, particularly in the rear of the landing in the centre of the main staircase. The apartments being all open, the people filled them at an early hour, and gratified themselves with a free examination of all the various beauties, accommo-

dations and conveniences. In the Staircase Hall, on the left or western side of the stairs, a raised platform was occupied by the Lynn Brass Band, of twenty-two members, led by Mr. Winslow Phinney; and these made the building echo with excellent music while the citizens gathered in by hundreds. By the arrival of the hour appointed for the exercises, probably two or three thousand persons, of both sexes and of every age and condition, were densely thronged in the rooms and passages. It had been arranged for the speakers to occupy a position on the landing of the main staircase; and accordingly every point that commanded a view of this spot was secured, and large numbers had to content themselves with hearing, from positions whence they could not see.

Particular pains had been taken to secure the attendance of as many of the aged men of the city as possible. Such were accordingly present in considerable numbers, and their silvery hairs gave a peculiar, solemn beauty to the view, as the eager and well-pleased companies moved from room to room, or gathered in choice places in the Staircase Hall. Before the ceremonies began, these old men had been, so far as possible, provided with seats in the first or lower gallery, presenting, in a long row around the sides of the hall, a spectacle of rare satisfaction to all. In the latter part of this volume will be found a list, as perfect as can now be made, of those who thus, in spite of years, honored the occasion by their presence.

Some time before the commencement of the ceremonies, the two Boards of the City Council had assembled, first in their separate rooms, and then in convention. From the Council Chamber they then proceeded to the main staircase, where His Honor, ROLAND G. USHER,

Mayor, took the chair, supported by THEODORE ATTWILL, Esq., President of the Common Council, on the right, and by His Honor, PETER M. NEAL, Ex-Mayor, on the left. The Architects, Chaplain of the Day, and other functionaries, were present in their places.

All things being arranged and quiet obtained, Mayor USHER said : —

Fellow Citizens, — The City Government have met here to-day for the purpose of dedicating this building to municipal purposes : and may God help us to do so in an appropriate manner. The house will be in order.

Alderman THOMAS STACEY, Acting Chairman of the Building Committee, then addressed the chair as follows : —

Mr. Mayor, — The Joint Special Committee, under whose care the work upon this building has been prosecuted during the present year, have authorized me to make a very brief report of their doings, and formally deliver to you possession of the same, for dedication at this time.

The City Council of 1865 unanimously adopted the plans and drawings which represented this structure, and ordered the foundation walls to be laid, and the basement story to be built. November 28th of that year the corner stone was laid. In January, 1866, the committee were instructed, with the same unanimity, to contract for the erection of the skeleton of the building and exterior finish, in accordance with the plans and specifications. August 15th the first face brick was laid upon the walls.

At the commencement of the present year a similar vote was passed, authorizing its further progress, and at the same time urging its completion in season for the inauguration of the city government of 1868, and providing ample means to meet the necessary expenditures. And we may here mention, as a noteworthy fact, that every appropriation for this purpose has passed both branches of the City Council without a dissenting voice.

Acting under these positive instructions, the committee have not only felt relieved of much responsibility, but have been greatly en-

couraged in their efforts to carry out the designs *complete*, and in the most thorough and substantial manner. They have therefore endeavored to secure the services of reliable and competent contractors, and have authorized the use of the best material and most skillful workmanship that could be procured, and have urged forward the work with a view to its final completion at this time ; and although it is not yet fully completed, it is sufficiently so for occupancy, and only a few days more will be required for its final accomplishment.

The fencing of the lot has been contracted for, and the work is progressing, but the lateness of the season will probably preclude its erection until spring.

It is proposed, at an early day, to cause to be printed a report, in detail, of all contracts and expenses incurred, including the cost of land, grading, fencing, furnishing the building, &c. An enumeration of this kind at the present time would necessitate a more elaborate report, and occupy more time than would seem desirable on this occasion, and as our fellow-citizens will very soon have an opportunity to examine every item as critically as they may desire, we therefore refrain from trespassing upon the time allotted for these exercises. We are pleased to say, however, that the total cost of the building will not exceed the several sums already appropriated, the aggregate amount of which is something less than three hundred thousand dollars.

The committee are also gratified to state that they have been enabled satisfactorily to adjust all claims on account of contracts, or other work, which have thus far been presented, and that the contractors have faithfully and honorably fulfilled their obligations. Also, that during the two and a half years since the commencement of the work, no serious accident or casualty has occurred to mar the record or sadden the memory, or in any manner obstruct its progress.

Mr. Mayor, — In behalf of the committee I now surrender to your charge the City Hall. You are its custodian by right of official station. Here may perfect wisdom guide us all, and lead us to a higher sense of our obligations in the performance of all our duties.

Mayor USHER responded : —

Mr. Chairman, — In accepting from your hands this building, for and in behalf of the City of Lynn, I should be recreant to a part of my duty did I fail to return to you, and the committee you represent, the thanks of this community, and offer you their congratulations for

the faithful manner in which you have discharged the duties assigned you. For more than two years we have watched with interest the progress of its construction, and to-day it is your privilege to transfer to this government a structure that is henceforth to be the pride of our citizens, creditable alike to any age or people.

To the architects, whose genius conceived and elaborated the designs; to the master builder, whose skill and workmanship is manifest from the foundation to the crowning of the dome; to the mechanic, who has given beauty to its walls and finish to its ceiling; to the various artizans, whose handiwork is here displayed; to look about us is a more eloquent tribute to their skill than any words of mine.

And, Mr. Chairman, having so well performed the duties assigned you, and so nearly completed this noble edifice, I here and now officially accept it from your hands; and, before proceeding to the dedicatory exercises, let us, gentlemen of the City Government and fellow citizens, join in prayer with the Rev. Mr. BARNES.

Rev. J. W. F. BARNES, pastor of the First M. E. Church, then offered the dedicatory prayer, as follows:—

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we assemble in joyful concourse this morning, to render praise and homage to Thy great name for the blessings which we now enjoy. And we here thank Thee, O God, for the privilege of gathering together in this beautiful building, so near to its completion, that we are here to-day to dedicate to the service of the city, and we trust also to the principles of Thy truth. We thank Thee for the progress that has been made in the rearing of this beautiful fabric, and that by Thy good providence the craftsmen and artificers who have been at work so long upon it have met with no accident to mar the progress of their efforts. And now we consecrate this beautiful temple to all the purposes for which it is needed. We trust, O God, that Thy blessing may fall upon it, sanctifying it to the present and future citizens of Lynn, and to the good of this Commonwealth as represented in this city. May Thy blessing also sanctify the industry and thrift which have been so largely developed in this city as to call for the erection of so spacious and beautiful an edifice. Lord Almighty, be pleased to bless the interests that are represented in this building; not only the industrial prosperity of our beautiful city, but those who shall be delegated by the people

to make and administer the laws. May Thy blessing be with them, and may the fear of God abide with the government of the city, as vested in the Mayor, the Aldermen and the Common Councilmen. May it lead them to the best legislation and the most proper enactments for the good of the people. We pray thee, O Heavenly Father, that Thy blessing may rest upon the administrators of the law in this building, in the courts which may be here convened. We pray that the judges who may here administer law, as between parties aggrieved, in the name of the Commonwealth, or between those who may have quarrelled, or against those who have offended against the laws of the city or commonwealth, may be preserved from injustice in their decisions. We pray that justice may abide with these tribunals, and that Thy spirit may be with the clerks and officers of the court, and with the marshal of the city, and all the officers under his charge, causing them to remember that "except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh in vain." May Thy blessing be with the School Committee who may from time to time assemble here, and may they be endued with wisdom, and that love for the interests they represent, that they may give such devotion to their duties as to help them to lift the children and youth, by a happy development of their mental faculties, to that plane which God designed them to occupy. May Thy blessing rest upon the attempt to establish here an adequate public library, for the good of all such as may be compelled to depend upon such means to perfect their education. May it be a central force to bless and educate those who, without other opportunities, fall to this as a means of education. O Lord God, be Thon with the poor, as their prayer comes up here to the ears of those appointed to their care, and may it be answered with such generosity as to relieve their wants and inspire their efforts to relieve themselves. May the cry of the prisoner who shall here be detained come up before Thee; and if there should be any injustice in the proceedings against him, may his cry come up before Thee, that the justice of the Lord, as well as the sentence of the law, may be meted out to him. May the moral interests of this beloved city, and the right development and moral education of the masses, be conserved by the institutions of religion that are here set up. May Thy blessings fall upon the ministers and clergy, that they may be able to accomplish all that Thon hast set them to do, and to teach by the light of Thy Holy Word and the instruction of Thy Holy Spirit. We pray that Thy blessing may rest upon the sister cities of this Commonwealth. And now, O God, we commend unto Thee not only our Commonwealth,

but our nation, and here we implore Thy blessing upon the government of the United States. May Thy servant, the President, be endowed with wisdom from above, that the true rights of the people may dominate in his soul, and may his perceptions be made clear by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that he may perfectly love Thee and worthily magnify Thy Holy Name. May Thy blessing be upon the members of Congress, and may the spirit of pure patriotism abide with them, and may a just sense of their responsibility to Thee, O God, qualify them for the onerous duties of that position, despite the influences of party or selfish interests to the contrary. Grant that our country may become the happiest, because governed by the best laws, — the truest prosperity which can characterize a people. Bless all who are concerned here, and may every heart be lifted up in holy prayer. Thus we commend ourselves to Thee, Father, and may the hearts of the people be lifted up, as Thou hast taught them to pray and say — “Our Father which art in heaven.” Amen.

Mayor USHER then delivered the following

DEDICATORY ADDRESS.

Gentlemen of the City Government and Fellow-Citizens.—In the year 1629, two hundred and thirty-eight years ago, Edmund and Francis Ingalls, John Wood, and a few others, seeking for themselves and their families a dwelling place, fixed their habitation in Lynn, — not the city of to-day, with its fine thoroughfares, its vast manufacturing establishments, thirty-eight trains of cars daily, and twenty-five thousand inhabitants, but an unbroken wilderness, where the hand of civilization had never left its impress, and where civilized society had no existence; with all the inconveniences, hardships and perils of such an habitation, they laid the foundation of this, our city.

Looking back through the centuries that have passed, with their trials and struggles unfolded, we can but admire the constant purpose and heroic faith, the indomitable energy and fearless spirit that characterized the early settlers of Lynn. Destitute of those instrumentalities and appliances so essential to such an undertaking; striving among disheartening influences that would have crushed an irresolute will; restricted to their own resources, and those most scanty; their necessities developed that self-reliance and integrity of purpose so conspicuous in all their career, and so requisite to their success.

Civilization has never floated on a quiet sea ; progress and advancement are an ascending plane ; they are purchased at a price corresponding to their value. To extend the advantages of refined society and social life, some must clear the way, making smooth the rough and uneven places. To the men of the earlier times was given the hardships of such an undertaking.

To dare the rigors of a northern winter, the perils of famine, far from help or succor, surrounded by a treacherous, hostile race ; to undertake the peopling of a continent and the erection of an empire, required just such men as the New England Puritans, — positive in convictions, obstinate in purpose, inflexible in will, and fearless in execution. In the year 1630 freemen from this place were received by the General Court, which appears as the only act of incorporation of which we can boast : the town at this time bearing the name of Saugus, which it retained until Nov. 30, 1637, when, by an act of the General Court, the same was changed to Lynn. The name of Lynn appears to have been selected in compliment to the Rev. Samuel Whiting, who came from old Lynn, England, the year previous, where he had acted as colleague to one of the rectors of the established Church. Difficulties having arisen on account of his nonconformity in administering the service of the Church, he came to America, fixing his residence in Lynn. Here, by the urbanity of his manners, fine abilities, and purity of life, he exercised a great influence among the people, and did much in moulding their character and purpose.

From the second year of the settlement emigration appears to have turned in this direction, so that in 1632 quite an addition had been made to their number. For nine years from the first settlement the lands were held in common, for in 1638 we learn that the lands within the limits which embraced what is now known as Lynn, Lynnfield, Saugus, Swampscott and Nahant, were divided among the settlers, the same being apportioned by a committee appointed by the town for that purpose.

Until 1814 Lynn embraced the territory contained in the above-named towns. This year Lynnfield was set off and incorporated into a separate town, Saugus the year following, while Swampscott and Nahant remained until 1852 and 1853, when they likewise received acts of incorporation. Thus far the settlers had given their attention to agriculture, the lands apportioned being mostly devoted to tillage. At this time (1638) there are said to have been one hundred families in Lynn. For a few years emigration continued, and then so far declined as to comparatively cease. Little of jealousy or difficulty

appears to have existed between the colonists and the Indians that surrounded them. Their position was one of comparative security until the Eastern Colonies were alarmed by the breaking out of King Philip's War, for the prosecution of which they furnished one company. With the death of Philip closed the war and all fears of the Indians.

At this period no title to the lands had been acquired, the Indians suffering their occupancy. And not until 1686 was a deed of the land on which the town was built obtained. At this time a title to the same was received from the Indians, by the payment of sixteen pounds current silver. From this date Lynn appears in all the essentials of a corporate town, with title to its lands, local officers, representation and taxation for general purposes, a principle for which, ninety years later, they made common cause with their brethren of the other colonies, and bore an honorable part in a contest that settled the relation of taxation to representation, establishing and maintaining a principle fundamental in our government. No people were ever more fully endowed with the essential characteristics, or imbued with the spirit necessary to build up a prosperous community, than were they. The accomplishment of every really great undertaking is the result of morality and intelligence, combined with activity and perseverance. That they fully possessed these qualities was apparent in their business, morality and religion. To the latter none have ever paid higher veneration, none more fully conformed to what they considered its exactions, or so rigidly enforced the penalties for every infringement upon their prescribed methods of religious observance. Escaping themselves from the Old World to find freedom of thought and action in the New, their first effort was to restrict the right they claimed. Although smarting under the pain of intolerance, they saw no protection without it, and built up an ecclesiastical system that left no room for individual conviction. If their religious fervor possessed more of the elements of bigotry than it did of the true spirit of Christianity; if by their statute law they sought to enforce upon men the observance of Christian rites, even from their nature tyrannical, with few rays of liberal Christian light, we must not forget that no little of this was the result of their condition in life, their hard experience, and the age in which they lived. If their acts detract from their consistency, and leave much to be condemned, we can but admire the great tenacity with which they adhered to their convictions. We can never forget that it was the rough virtues of such as these, combined with an advancing intelligence, that has reared the thousands of prosperous

and happy communities of which we form a part. With them their religion was a living fact, and produced tangible results on society. So with education they early sought to close the door of ignorance, and as early as 1647 the General Court passed a law making the support of schools compulsory, and education both universal and free. Every town of fifty families was bound to maintain a school, in which children should be taught to read and write, and every town of one hundred families was obliged to maintain a grammar school, the master of which should be able to qualify the youth for the university.

In conformity to this law Lynn established a school, and through the changes of two centuries the light of her schools has shone out, dispelling in its course the clouds of popular ignorance. Time has modified and overthrown many of the early statutes, but time and experience have only increased our respect and admiration for this loyal requirement. They were building up a community with common interests, and recognized the necessity of intelligence to apprehend those interests. They knew that ignorance was the parent of crime; that every man was a ruler, and should be fitted to exercise that power. Education with them was a keeper at the door of public morals: the lever lifting society to the plane of virtuous intelligence, which developed into activity, manifest in all the departments of business which their circumscribed facilities would permit, finally resulted in the great industrial pursuits which distinguish this community.

From a very early period in our history attention was directed to the manufacture of shoes. The first shoemaker known here was Philip Kertland, who arrived at Lynn in 1635. For one hundred years and upwards subsequent to his arrival this manufacturing branch of industry was both small in quantity and inferior in quality. Little practical knowledge of the business had been acquired previous to 1750, when John Adam Dagyr came to Lynn. Much of the information in the art had been gained by taking in pieces shoes of foreign make, to learn their construction. Dagyr was able to impart the requisite knowledge without such process. At this time three persons only were engaged in the business to such an extent as to employ journeymen. Under the guidance of Dagyr the manufacturers were soon able to produce goods equal in quality to the best foreign productions; and from that period dates the permanent advancement of the staple business of Lynn;—the laying of the foundation of a branch of industry that in our day furnishes employment to three-

fourths of our own population, with large numbers beyond our own limits. From this simple beginning has grown a production of more than ten million pairs annually. Eighteen years after Dagyr arrived the productions reached eight thousand pairs. From 1795 to 1855 the increase each decade was more than one hundred per cent., while from 1855 to 1865 the same was nearly three hundred per cent. Such a result has been attained through the combined labors of an enterprising and industrious population; (and let me say here, that in 1810, with a population of only four thousand, the ladies earned fifty thousand dollars in binding shoes.) The largest of the early establishments appear diminutive when contrasted with a single manufactory of the present day, that sends out half a million pairs annually.

As we witness the magnitude of this department of our industrial labor, the vast capital involved, the thousands that directly or indirectly derive support thereby, our unassailable position in the markets of the world for this special branch of trade, and the business lines radiating from our city to almost every town and city on the continent, let us not forget they are the summing up of one hundred years' experience, — the product of a century's laborious thought and patient toil. The seed so long ago planted has, by culture and care, grown to be the tree under whose branches twenty-five thousand people now find shelter.

That the energy of the early settlers was not confined to one branch of manufacturing is evident, for as early as 1641 we find them establishing an iron foundry, — the first on the continent. Two years later it went into successful operation, supplying the larger portions of the colonies. So valuable to the public was the furnace considered, that to its proprietors certain privileges were granted, such as immunities from taxation for a series of years, with other favorable considerations.

In the year 1803 the Salem and Boston Turnpike was opened to public travel. No better means of progress is found than free communications. The highways of mankind are the links of social advancement and commercial prosperity. Ready communication with the world beyond us enlarges our ideas and brings to our doors the advantages of human observation and experience. The more general this contact with men and things, the better qualified we become for their association, and the better our understanding of their various relations. Easy communication and cheap travel are the essentials of such a condition. The one accrued to Lynn through the opening of the avenue referred to; the other was accomplished thirty-five years

later by the construction of the Eastern Railroad. Since this the city has advanced more rapidly in wealth and population. For the twenty-five years following the first settlement the increase in population averaged about thirty per annum: from 1800 to 1825, one hundred; from 1825 to 1850, three hundred and sixty, and from 1850 to 1860 the same was four hundred and eighty.

While the increase in population has been constant and steady, the advancement in wealth has been no less so. The valuation from 1850 to 1855 shows an advance for the five years of three and a half millions: from 1855 to 1860, one and a half millions: from 1860 to 1867, six millions, or a gross increase in the seventeen years of eleven millions. This growth has been natural, therefore healthy,—the result of no speculative schemes that bring fictitious value. Whatever has been attained, either much or little, in this direction, has been of a permanent character.

In the year 1850 the town government gave place to that of a city, by the adoption of a city charter. If the latter has possessed less of the democratic form, and set aside the town meetings of former times, in which public questions were discussed, with the change of government passed away the evils incident to such gatherings. A municipal form of government combines more of system, and brings into activity, for the public welfare, a greater diversity of talent, and through the personal responsibility of each member of the government, a larger number become interested in the public good. Questions of municipal legislation are met from the standpoints of many minds, and are more fully apprehended in their various bearings and results. With this change in the order of government, corresponding changes incident thereto were demanded. With the individual, enlarged wealth and social position require enlarged expenditures. Thus small communities have moderate wants, paying similar compensation. Let them be endowed with enterprise, energy and capital, and they spring to new life, to higher position, and more commanding influence.

The plain wooden structure which, in former times, met the wants of a town government, was found insufficient for the same, in its advanced age. The Town Hall of 1814 was ample to meet the wants of that period. On its destruction by fire, temporary accommodations were obtained. These proving inadequate, the building just vacated was removed to its present location, where, for the past sixteen months, the business of the city has been transacted. The first action taken by the City Council, which has resulted in the erection of this structure, was had on Feb. 18, 1863. In July following,

an appropriation of fifteen thousand dollars was made for the purchase of the site on which this building stands. Thirteen months later, Oct. 17, 1864, this sum was increased by another appropriation of seventy-four hundred dollars. Not until June 19, 1865 — upwards of two years from the time of the introduction of the first order — were the committee instructed to put the basement under contract, when another appropriation of twenty thousand dollars was made for this purpose. The contract was made accordingly, and the cornerstone laid Nov. 28, 1865. On the advent of the city government of 1866, Jan. 8, the committee appointed by the same were instructed to proceed with the construction of the building, on the same plans and specifications as adopted by the government of 1865. July 12, 1866, one hundred thousand dollars was appropriated for this purpose. Jan. 29, 1867, an additional sum of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars was appropriated — twenty thousand of which was to meet the notes given in 1865 for the appropriation on the basement. Aug. 5, 1867, fifty-seven thousand dollars more were appropriated to carry the building on to completion, making a total of two hundred and ninety-nine thousand four hundred dollars.

Two years from the commencement of the enterprise — on this, the two hundred and thirty-eighth anniversary of the settlement of the place, and the two hundred and thirtieth of the adoption of the name of Lynn — we are here assembled to dedicate the building to municipal legislation. Here it stands, unlike any other in our community, dissimilar in the style of its architecture and adornments. But its peculiarities, its strong distinctive features, are not those seen with the eye, but the idea it symbolizes. It is a living voice, ever speaking of good order in society, protection to the weak and security to the strong. It is a recognition of common duties and relations, and the uncounted blessings of good government. It is a monument of the thoughts, purposes and feelings of this people. No historic associations or inspiring memories cluster around it; no traditional story of olden time, no legend of antiquity, clings to or forms part of its history; yet it is a point in our history — a progressive point. It proclaims not only order and good government, but vigor, activity and capabilities. Quiet and steady as has been our material prosperity has it arisen from its foundation, stone upon stone, through all the months of its construction. Here, in this building erected by the people and for the people, should the people's will be law. Consecrated to popular government, majorities must rule, and the rulers of the people are but servants for the general good. In this building

will centre, through representatives here assembled, the future hopes of our city. To it each citizen may lay lawful claim, and can point with common pride, as a tangible illustration of liberality and taste. And if it shall strengthen the bonds that bind a single one more closely to Lynn, as his or her home, it will not have been reared in vain.

While erecting a suitable place for public business, the expense of which is borne in common, let us not forget that we should in common become the bearers of the burdens of municipal affairs.

Dedicating this building, as we do to-day, let us dedicate it to good order and good government. Looking into the faces of the fathers who have honored us with their presence, thus linking this with former generations, we trust that when our children shall stand where we now stand, and occupy the places we now occupy, the blessings of wise government, and the favor of Divine Providence, may be as fully enjoyed by them, in years to come, as they have been by us in years past.

This address was received with manifest favor by the assembly. Lively applause followed upon its conclusion, to which the band responded by an appropriate selection, — “Auld Lang Syne.”

The Mayor next introduced the Poet of the Day. CYRUS M. TRACY, Esq., who proceeded to recite the subjoined

POEM.

IN former days — as the old stories run —
Where the dates ripen in the orient sun —
A potent king once built a palace grand,
Whose splendor dazzled the surrounding land.
Princes and lords assembled at his call,
And dedicated it with festival,
And song and sacrifice; and made the air
To echo with rejoicings, then and there.

But as these princes cast their eyes around,
A man of somewhat lesser rank they found,
Placed o'er the slaves that drew and poured the wine,
Bidding its blush through crystal flagons shine,
And ordering every vintage as he might incline.

Displeased, they sought the king. "This gives us shame!
 Why is this man, so little nursed of fame,
 Set to a work thy fathers gave alone
 Into the noblest hands before the throne?"

•
 "Peace!" cried the king: "In this ye speak but ill:
 This day, of glory I will have my fill!
 Of this man's rank, or worth, say not a word!
 Another time, your charges may be heard.
 If I have built these shining towers and domes,
 And filled with joy these incense-clouded rooms,
 And only made one error in the way
 I place my servants on this festive day,
 The blame be mine! To you it shall be known,
 I can afford it! Let the feast go on!"

Thus, worthy seniors, citizens of Lynn,
 I find myself, these noble halls within.
 Called, by the bidding of your lord and mine,
 To stand and draw this day's poetic wine,
 I do it — well or ill — but hear my prayer.
 If I'm *not* worthy — charge it to the Mayor!

I well anticipate the thought of those
 Who look to where some greener laurel grows;
 And wish, instead, that WHITTIER were here,
 The gently fierce, the genially severe;
 Or else the Poet sweet, by Casco bred,
 Who honors Harvard with his heart and head;
 One cheating us to think, by magic speech,
 Our City Hall a Tent upon the Beach;
 The other painting some delightful scene,
 With Pitcher's wife for his Evangeline;
 Or singing the sweet measures of a lay,
 To make a Hiawatha of Old Gray.*
 Perhaps the "AUTOCRAT," whose two-fold skill
 Prescribes in verse and mottoes every pill,
 Might comfort give to those who feel the wound
 Pierced by the arrow of the Sinking Fund;
 For he might teach that more endurance lay
 In these our walls, than in his "one-horse shay:"
 And long before decay had touched a stone,
 That wound should heal, and never hurt the bone.

* GEORGE GRAY, the Hermit of Lynn, and one of her most mysterious characters, died Feb. 28, 1848, aged 78 years. His origin and history were never known. Mary, or "Moll," wife of Robert Pitcher, figures in all our annals as the well-known "Fortune-teller of Lynn." She died April 9, 1813, aged 75.

Again, there may be some, whose high respect
 And admiration of our architect
 Grow warmer, till they cry, " Full honor show him!
 Since BRYANT drew the plans, let BRYANT write the Poem! "

Patience, good friends; all cannot have their way;
 The duty and the joy are mine to-day,
 To put my voice for yours, and speak the words
 Of gratulation that each heart records.
 Not for ourselves alone the echoing horn
 Pours forth its music to the listening morn;
 Not for ourselves alone these pennons wave,
 Tinged with heaven's blue, pure white, and blood of brave.
 Our very hearts, that beat so warm within,
 Are pulsing now for many hearts of kin,
 And distant ears that list the greetings of old Lynn.

Hail to thee, ancient matron COMMONWEALTH!
 God send thee blessings, and enduring health!
 Lynn would salute thee in her hour of pride,
 And plants her seat to strengthen thee, beside.
 Oh, Mother, there are tears upon thy cheek!
 Thy lips sob, faltering, what they cannot speak,
 For many a son of thine that silent lies
 By freedom's altar-side, thy sacrifice, —
 For him, thine ANDREW, gone forever now,*
 A gem from out the circle round thy brow;
 Gone like a father to that unknown land,
 Perchance to still watch o'er that hero-band.
 To whom his word was strength, to nerve the flagging hand.
 Oh Mother, dry thy tears, and bind thy zone!
 Thy daughter-cities leave thee not alone;
 Stars set; but other stars do ever rise;
 And thou shalt make perpetual strength thy prize,
 If on the Heavenly Light thou keep thy faithful eyes!

Hail to thee, Grandame ESSEX! Who shall not
 Blush red with shame, if thou shouldst be forgot?
 We give thee good remembrance. Thine old head
 Wears yet the wreath of roses, fresh and red,

* It is needless, except as a further incentive to think upon a noble character, to say that JOHN A. ANDREW, ex-Governor of Massachusetts, and her illustrious head in the terrible struggle of the Rebellion, died Oct. 30, 1867, in the enjoyment of greater love, perhaps, than the people of the State ever accorded to another departed citizen.

With maiden lightness. Who like thee pretends
To sit and show her children to her friends,
In three great decades of well-prospered towns,
And cities four, like hives without the drones?
All honor to thee. Lynn is still thine own.
Here, at Thanksgiving, by the old hearth-stone,
She brings her pumpkin-pies and love to thee,
And links her luck with thy prosperity.
What genial faces here around thy board
Return our joy, and smile for smile afford!
Our sister cities come from far and near,
With town and village, bringing right good cheer.
'Tis ours this time the honors here to do;
Carve turkey, turn the tea, and do the talking too.

Good health to thee, O SALEM! By our side,
As the first, so dost thou still abide.
Only three years between thy birth and ours;
How many since, with all their snows and flowers!
Say we, that centuries have not hurt us yet,
But that our face as firmly we can set
Against the wrong, and for the eternal right
Make as strong pleadings and as stalwart fight.
As in the days when Old North Bridge was won.
And when we sent our boys to Lexington.
Heaven keep thee, sister! Many a noble name
Hast thou been privileged to give to fame.
We've seen thy BOWDITCH teach ten thousand tars;
We helped thee bury LANDER and his scars;*
We knew thy PICKERING — so did Washington;
Thy HAWTHORNE and the wondrous thread he spun.
What if thy toils and thoughts have been afar,
Gathering thy wealth beneath the morning star,
While we have cast the net, and tilled the field,
And traced our scutcheon on our leathern shield?
Still as our mutual territories join,
In patriot feeling may our hearts combine;
And neither stint the kind, assisting hand,
When fire, or pestilence, or lawless band
Invades her sister. The Lord watch o'er thee
As over us, till cities cease to be!

Fair NEWBURYPORT, heroic child of pain,
We heartily salute thee! As the train

* Brig.-Gen. FREDERIC W. LANDER, a native of Salem, but resident in Lynn, died of wounds received at the battle of Edward's Ferry, Va., and was buried in presence of the authorities of the two cities, on the 8th of March, 1862.

Tracks the swift line toward our High Rock, and back
 To where the Atlantic clasps his Merrimae,
 So the warm pulses of fraternity
 Go undulating between us and thee.
 We've seen the bruises on thy skilful hands :
 We've seen thy robes all smutched with midnight brands ;
 And rotting spars along thy river sands.
 Yet have we seen thee, with clear shining eye,
 Choke back the struggling grief and rising sigh,
 Plant thy foot firmly on thy lovely shore,
 And challenge fortune to the test once more !
 Brave, dauntless sister ! Heaven shall succor those
 That help themselves, whatever tempest blows.
 Rise, bind the curls beneath thy mural crown.
 Build the fair city on the ruined town.
 And bid the sawyer's sweep and canker's stroke
 Beat time while spindles hum and engines croak.
 Till Essex in her length and breadth grows bright,
 In the new radiance of thy northern light !
 Whose better claim to honor can we bring :
 Instructed by the dulcet voice of KING,
 By PARSONS, Justice's prime minister,
 By PERKINS, Nature's cross-examiner,
 Nurse of the sparkling GOULD and CUSHING stern,
 And guardian of good WHITEFIELD's sacred urn ?
 Here, in the gladness of our festal day,
 By the worn beaches of this ancient bay,
 We give thee our right hand and benison,
 And bid thee God-speed as the years roll on.

And thou, the youngest of the crowned four —
 LAWRENCE — Lynn greets thee from her heart's best store !
 Though far away thy distant vale retires,
 Nor once our hill-tops catch thy shining spires,
 Yet we can hear thee, as thy vigorous tread
 Echoes across the slopes with verdure spread.
 And we have known the story of thy birth,
 Thou miracle 'mong cities of the north !
 Born of full stature, armed and helmeted,
 Like strong Minerva, sprung from Jove's own head.
 Wondering, we saw thee seize, with powerful hands,
 The serpent river round his scaly strands,
 Close gripping him, till his reluctant coil
 Was forced to turn and serve thy curious toil :
 And thus with brodered mantle sittest thou,
 While Nature's hands with wealth thy lap endow.
 Princess of ruddy cheek ! And yet thy heart
 Is tender, and the ready tear can start

At suffering: even yet the shudders run
 Across thy bosom at the thought of Pemberton.
 Sister, thy record in that awful hour
 Is worth far more to thee than all the dower
 Of webbed and woven wealth that thou hast gained.
 For this is dross, but that was mercy unrestrained.
 Gather thy SAUNDERS with thy gentlest arm! *
 Give him thy gratitude, forever warm;
 And with him gather all those blessed ones,
 Whom neither eves nor slowly-rising suns
 Saw flinching from the ghastly strife, to claim
 From crushing ruin and the rampant flame,
 The mangled form of poor Humanity.
 And lay its bleeding head on thy supporting knee!
 In this, our proud day, while the cornet's note
 Toward thee we send, o'er northern hills to float,
 We mingle one soft thought of things like these,
 To purify and calm our revelries.
 Blessings attend thee! and may Heaven allow
 Us, when misfortune comes, to meet as kind as thou!

And yet, good people of our ancient Lynn,
 Others are here, our very kith and kin,
 Bear witness, worthy elders: children four
 Have outward gone from our paternal door.
 Should we not take them by the hand to-day once more?

LYNNFIELD, our first born! when we sent thee forth,
 And gave thee the old field upon the north,
 It was a troubled hour; and sounds of war
 Came from the sea, while cities blazed afar. †
 But now it is a better day, and we
 Are glad in health to meet again with thee.
 Thou ever wert a steady-minded lad,
 Loving the furrow and the milking-shed;
 And if thou art not rich, thou hast not lost,
 But ever made the golden mean thy trust.
 Thine is the birthright. Thou shalt have three shares,
 When the old chest is opened for our heirs. ‡

* Those who live at a distance from the city of Lawrence must ever see in Hon. DANIEL SAUNDERS, JR., Mayor at the time of the disaster at the Pemberton Mill, the bright exponent of that spirit of self-sacrificing exertion, by which the whole people of that city distinguished themselves, in aid of the unfortunate sufferers.

† Lynnfield was incorporated Feb. 28, 1814, during the last war with England; Saugus, on the 17th of Feb., 1815, the same day on which Congress ratified the treaty of Ghent; Swampscott was incorporated May 21, 1852; and Nahant, March 29, in the next year.

‡ Our old chest is a most curious and choice receptacle. It contains kind recollections, good wishes, fraternities, possible favors, and all the advantages that may and ought to flow between town and town. When the time comes for unveiling these accumulations, the good heart of Lynn toward those of her own blood will be discovered.

SAUGUS! when times more peaceable became.
 We gave thee the west lot, our old town name.
 And our best blessing; thou hast done right well.
 Though loving less to dig than buy and sell.
 We love to have thee near us: we can hear
 Thy bells at evening, when the air is clear.
 And it brings back the dear old quiet days.
 And Parson Roby's words of prayer and praise.*
 Thou hast been true, and kept the faith of old.
 And lovest freedom better than thy gold.
 Three shares belong to thee in the old chest:
 If thou dost need them not, then give them to the rest.

SWAMPSCOTT! 't was more than thirty years before
 Thou, come to age, didst ask to have the shore.
 And the four beaches; so all these we gave.
 And bade thee go, and labor and be brave.
 Bold and outspoken, in thy storm-proof rig.
 And never caring for the rain-cloud big,
 We never doubted there was luck for thee.
 Nor that thy lines would draw it from the sea:
 And now in all thy gains we too have joy.
 Like any parent that loves well his boy.
 In the old chest there are two shares for thee:
 Some time they yet may add to thy prosperity.

Another still is here — the pet NAHANT:
 Our only daughter; whom we never meant
 Should leave us; but her brothers went away.
 And then no argument could make her stay.
 A wayward chick she ever was, indeed;
 Still running wild to play in the sea-weed.
 Or angling nippers from the beetling rocks.
 With gay winds lifting all her golden locks.
 And so we let the merry teaser go.
 For 't was not in our heart to say her no;
 Gave her the rocks and beach she loved so well.
 And bade her with her friends in comfort dwell.
 Together fry their fish, and scoop the dainty shell.
 There's two shares left to go to her, no doubt.
 And that will clean the old chest nearly out.

Good people all, why are you here to-day?
 It cannot be to hear the trumpets play.

* Rev. JOSEPH ROBY, pastor of the Congregational Church in Saugus, died Jan. 31, 1763, aged 79 years. He preached fifty-one years. He was an excellent scholar, a pious and venerable man, and highly esteemed for his social virtues. [History of Lynn.

'Because, if you had staid at home, before
 A great while, they would pass your very door.
 Of course you come to see the CITY HALL:
 The brown-stone portico: the steeple tall:
 To guess how high the vane is from the ground:
 And estimate the iron work per pound.
 The grade and frontage you have come to see.
 And the French roof, 'tis such a rarity:
 Study the columns in the vestibule.
 And if they cast them hot, and let them cool:
 To see the skylight, whence the rays, like snow,
 Sift on the tessellated floor below;
 Go up and see the clock, and count the stairs:
 And note the furnaces and such affairs.
 Some come admiring: some with reverence:
 Some sneering, crying, "What extravagance!"
 And some to find, by hunting round the spot,
 Whether that "No Admittance" *did* mean anything or not.*

But think not, friends, that I to-day appear
 To lecture on the beauties that are here:
 Nor on the practical advantages
 Of rooms, and stairs, and galleries like these.
 Others do that: for me, I choose to hit
 Some thoughts that they might happen to omit:
 And in advance, prepare your waiting mind
 For things that time is going to unwind.
 Beauties are here: but many a defect:
 And not to speak of these were gross neglect.

Good judges, not a few, have thought it queer
 That there's no public hall hid somewhere here.
 In all this mass of brick, and stone, and lime:
 Where any man might come, at any time.
 For any purpose, and in any way,
 Through any period keeping up his stay.
 A place for Liberty's peculiar use:
 Sacred to peanuts: consecrate with juice
 Of eavendish; with furniture well planned
 To serve each freeman's trusty blade and hand:
 (A freeman's blade's his jack-knife, understand):
 A public hall: whose floor the applauding jar
 As well could stand, as sidewalk laid in tar:
 And whose fair plaster should be tablet fit
 For off-hand sketching and plumbago wit.

* Prohibitory signboards proved not quite sufficient to repress the curiosity of citizens, during the progress of the building; and the number of spectators seemed enough, at times, to vex less good-natured workmen.

Why do we seek for such a hall in vain,
 With its approaches, where, like eastern train,
 The rushing crowd's free course should intimate
 To those that sit here in their petty state,
 That the great people were their masters yet,
 And bound that they no secret power should get?

'Tis of no use, my friends; there 's no such room,
 Nor can there be. Now, don't mistake, and come,
 Thinking to hear the banjo's silvery sound,
 And see the Artist-Ethiops gathered round,
 Warbling soft airs, in Congo once renowned.
 Pray you, don't come here looking for the play —
 Jack Sheppard, or the Jibbenainosay;
 Nor risk your bones to climb these windows high,
 In hopes to see some ballet-dancer fly.
 You cannot here enjoy the charm that flits
 Around Macallister, or Signor Blitz,
 Nor run the smallest chance, inside this door,
 To draw that "chamber set, worth forty dollars," sure.*

No, people of this place, to whose good sense
 A City Hall without the citizens
 Is an anomaly, and worse than that,
 In very terms a contradiction flat,
 Indulge your hopeless grief; and only say,
 "Had it been otherwise, how many a ray
 Of native eloquence had sparkled there,
 Like an aurora on the arctic air!
 How well again the battles had been given,†
 First waged in 'sixty, or in 'fifty-seven!
 How firm the arch, how short its easy span,
 For any energetic, careful man,
 From that free platform to the Mayor's seat,
 The Clerk's fat fees, the Treasurer's golden wheat!
 But Fate's decree is what we must abide,
 And see our City Hall and all its pride
 Devoted to the chartered purposes
 And lawful uses of these men of ease.
 Now to your tents, O Israel, for this day
 Moses and Aaron have it all their way!"

* It is not well ascertained whether more than one set of furniture has for some years past done duty among the prizes at the gift-shows at Lyceum Hall, or whether they are all one and the same, with some little change or restoration in the painting. The uniform value announced tends to help the latter suspicion.

† None but the "oldest inhabitant" can remember more stirring exhibitions of popular eloquence than graced the public gatherings in Lynn during the "hard times" of '57 and the "strike" of '60.

But we must notice other things, I fear,
 That help prevent this stream from running clear.
 No billiard-room have I discovered yet,
 None, certainly, with any tables set,
 Where Councilmen, by long discussion tired,
 Might, by a string or two, be reinspired.
 I ask, when brains too weary are to think,
 And hands revolt from gluten and from ink,
 What place for such, where they, a little while,
 May have gymnastics in a quiet style,
 And newly brace the system to the rub.
 By tossing bean-bags, and the Indian club?
 What constant wonder has it made for me,
 To seek, and seek, and find no room for "tea"!
 How shall the prophecies be held as true,
 Respecting what our Aldermen would do,
 If ever we allowed them chance to shirk,
 And mix high living with the public work?
 "A class of men," the prophets said, "whose sin
 Is great in Gotham, and will be as great in Lynn."

Perhaps I am too fast. For down below
 Is an arrangement that, for aught I know,
 May be this same, which, with concealed intent,
 They've changed, to have it *a la restaurant*.
 Some half a score of stalls, with lock and key.*
 Where any Alderman may take his tea,
 With sugar or without, as quiet as can be.

Within, all this is patent. The design
 That governs things exterior seems fine,
 But is not finished. When it is, I fear
 'T will show as many blunders as are here.
 How strange that men of sense should grade this lawn,
 Which these broad casements all look forth upon,
 And education bear so little sway
 With them, that there's no place to play croquet!
 What hardened hearts men have, thus to o'erlook
 The claims of innocence, cramped o'er slate and book!
 Prepare huge marriage records, grave and dry,
 But no provision for a sport whereby
 To train the heart and wake the youthful sigh!

The worst comes yet. In all the people's name
 I stand here to denounce the crying shame.

* Reference to the Architect's plan renders it probable that these "stalls" were intended for the confinement of offenders; but their substantial and comfortable character may well justify the idea suggested.

That we have built this costly City Hall,
 And have no place about it for base ball!
 That "splendid game," by danger and by fear
 Proved to be only next to glorious war;
 In whose defence such brave ones spend their breath,
 Break thumbs and fingers, and spit forth their teeth;
 Forego warm meals, and eat, with haste intense,
 A few hard crackers, by the Common fence;
 Deprive themselves of friends and light of home,
 Ambushing depots till the "others" come;
 And freely yield their substance, great or small,
 To vindicate the glory of base ball!
 Here have we been for three years, less or more,
 Piling this structure; till there is a door
 For everything, around this vestibule —
 Poor, Fire, Clerk, Mayor, Taxes, Treasurer, School —
 And yet it seems that not a thought is spent
 Upon this most important element,
 Which any stranger, passing through the street,
 In days of rain or days of dusty heat,
 Might see, far more engaged the public heart
 Than the New Depot, or the Harbor Chart!

Do justice, then, ye men of Lynn, and give
 Meet recognition now to those that live,
 Survivors of the summer's hard campaign;
 Nor leave them of the city to complain.
 Appreciate them. Their splendid game evolves
 Fine talents, and most curious questions solves.
 Their cultured skill, like that of bats and owls,
 Is seen in catching "flies" and catching "fouls";
 'Tis nothing for them to make wholly clear,
 Which of the "pitchers" has the greater ear;
 And some have deeply probed that question fine,
 "Which were the Muses — first, or second nine?"
 Give them a room and let them hang it round
 With trophies from each hard-contested ground;
 With rosewood bats, and starry silken flags,
 Gauntlets, and gaiters, and base-cushion bags,
 And silver balls (the only missiles which
 Our grandames thought could ever kill a witch);
 And let their score-books there be well displayed,
 Beside the government-members' record laid,
 To show the "ins" and "outs" and "runs" that each have made,
 Let us be wise in time, and statesmanlike,
 There's good chance yet — we've only had "one strike!"*

* The worthy votaries of the "national game" are requested not to suppose that any connection is intended between their fraternity and the "strike" of '60, or indeed with

I note these things with little hope that we
 Shall ever meet them with fit remedy.
 I merely do my duty ; and confess
 'Tis well the share of good is not still less.
 The Hall is built, and very well and strong ;
 Doubtless to stand through years and ages long ;
 Founded with care and reared with workmanship
 Unrivalled, winning praise from every lip.
 So far we 've gone to have the work endure,
 That, as the ancients made their temples sure
 With sacrificial gifts of costly things,
 To please the gods and clip Destruction's wings,
 So we have brought a rich burnt-offering too ;
 As much for our own Pantheon to do.
 Those stately elms, that westward viewed the Park,
 And watched, down Market Street, the coaster's bark,
 We 've laid upon the altar ; and have cried,
 And begged Apollo to be pacified,
 And Mammon to be pleased ; for he demands
 Such offerings frequently, along our lands.
 And he is far too strong a god for us,
 That we should not propitiate him thus.

Then have no fear, O Lynn, that storms will blow
 Too fiercely, and thy temple overthrow ;
 Nor think at all of conflagration dire,
 So turned aside with offering made by fire ;
 Nor in the nightly silence be afraid
 Of Uncle LEGREE's angry, threatening shade : *
 No *shade* of his remains ! The latest bough
 Is burnt and gone to Emery's long ere now !
 Rest well, O Lynn ! thy nerves no tremor shocks ;
 The elms are down, and sliced for "dinking blocks !"

Pass, pleasantries ! The laugh and joke are well.
 To turn the edge of care and break the spell
 Of anxious thought ; and yet, along our way,
 With memory oft, we, fondly lingering, stay.
 This building must not with its things of joy
 Enchant us, and all other sense destroy !

any enterprise of doubtful utility or expediency. The allusions of the poem will, no doubt, be met by them in the same kind spirit with which they have always encountered every thing belonging to their duty.

* JOHN LEGREE JOHNSON, Esq., for many years the excellent Treasurer of the Town of Lynn, owned and resided on the spot now occupied by the City Hall. He died in 1829. The fears expressed by some when his two elms were cut down, that "Uncle Legree would appear to them," have not, it is supposed, been realized.

Nor must we, with unworthy disrespect,
 Pass by, in heedlessness and cold neglect,
 That humbler building that our fathers framed,
 The OLD TOWN HALL, by them so well esteemed.
 Be this the cataract, where the public voice
 Through wealth and influence speaks with mighty noise.
 Like rushing torrent; and the strength of Wrong
 Is broken, and his ruin spreads along!
 But that shall be the unpretending spring,
 Where little children did their pitchers bring,
 And youths and men with wholesome thirst drew nigh.
 And drank the rill unstained, of Yankee Liberty!
 Oh, ye to-day that boast, and boasting, tell
 How Lynn with glory in these halls shall dwell,
 Think of the days when moral greatness shone
 As brightly, in that plain old place unknown,
 Where men of little wealth, and men of none.
 Confronted all the duties of the hour,
 And hushed their need, that Right might rule with power!
 Well shall it be, if every future year
 Shall from these gorgeous chambers always hear
 As faithful words, instinct with patriot pride,
 As echoed from that "calf-pen" we deride!

Good men and true, whose early days were cast
 In Lynn, — who do not quite despise the past, —
 Return with me a moment in your thought.
 And see that Old Town Hall, that was, and now is not.
 See the calm Quakers come from Pudding Hill,
 And whalemén, it may be, from Chase's Mill,
 Men from old Boston Street, with waxy hands,
 Gravesenders, leaving boys to till their lands,
 From Saugus Bridge and the Old Sluice are some,
 And Swampscott fishermen with fife and drum!
 See eager voters press around the "pen!"
 See the grave faces of the Selectmen!
 The candy-boys that drive their trade apace,
 The constable that plies the heavy mace,
 The vote-distributors that hedge the door,
 The Moderator, type of transient power,
 And fledgling statesmen, confident and bright,
 Stretching their necks behind, to see the count is right!
 How many words on little matters spent!
 What frequent jest! What pointed argument!
 What tactics keen! What chilly open doors!
 What honest triumphs, and what dirty floors!

Shift once the scene. The small town lyceum
 Is crowded, though the air is cold and numb.

The keeper at the door has double care,
 Makes change and keeps the boys in order there.
 Augustus looks extremely gratified,
 And winks to Sarah, on the other side,
 To see Priscilla, with her utmost charm,
 Brought up the aisle on Hezekiah's arm,
 In blissful ignorance that her dress may prove
 Severely scorched in passing the box stove.
 Good dames in specs, and men whose dickeys rise
 Like Alps on Alps, invading ears and eyes,
 Sit listening to the speaker of renown,
 (The worthy parson of the adjoining town).
 And all go home when lyceum is done,
 Convinced no other place has half so good a one.

The stereoscope I turn, and turn again,
 And bring fresh pictures in a wondrous train.
 The singing-school. The master beating time,
 With glowing face and passion quite sublime;
 And men and maidens, in harmonic fray,
 Doing fierce battle with the orchestra;
 While 'neath the clarionet and rude bassoon
 Full many a strongly-sinewed, ancient tune
 Comes to the torture; till a startling pause
 Brings down the master with his code of laws,
 Expounding — wondering that they cannot see
 What makes B flat be different from B!

A dozen other scenes. A laughing gas
 Professor; and an artist spinning glass;
 A caucus; then a show of grapes and pears;
 A shrewd phrenologist; and little fairs,
 With tea above, and "Johnny Brown" down stairs.
 I know not what. The painting fades away
 In indistinctness, till a sudden ray
 Leaps out in lurid light across the gloom,
 And hot flames quiver like the darts of doom!
 The timbers crash! — the windows "kling" and fly!
 The old Town Hall sinks and is gone! The sky
 Frowns angrily, for up to Heaven high
 From the red cinders goes a victim's rending cry!*

Old Lynn has gone! Ye worthy men, whose hair
 Stern Time has whitened with the snows of care,

* "The old City Hall was destroyed by fire in October last, which would not have been a matter of much serious consequence, had it not been for the melancholy affair connected with it, — the death of Mr. Joseph Bond, who perished in the flames." [Mayor Neal's Inaugural, Jan. 2, 1865.]

Ye knew a Lynn that loved the ways of peace ;
 That kept her flocks and tended their increase ;
 That followed still her unobtrusive way,
 And looked not forward to this joyous day.
 Ye knew a time when all the farmer craved
 Was, that his hay and corn were timely saved.
 That all his family in health were found.
 And all his cattle equally were sound.
 When, as the craftsman plied his gentle art,
 And stitched and hammered in his shop apart,
 He heard the humming of the matron's wheel
 Blend with the bee's, and o'er his senses steal.
 When logs of generous magnitude gave forth
 A glow that gladdened all the social hearth.
 While from the faithful crane the kettle swung,
 And apples roasted while the goodwife sung.
 Then could the yeoman call around his board
 A family that kept their father's word.
 Of daughters hale, and sons of brawny mould.
 Laughing at toil, and careless of the cold.
 Ye knew when people built them houses good,
 That kept their places, as they meant they should.
 When children first to bed, and early, went,
 Had razors seen, and knew what bonnets meant.

Once more I say, *that* Lynn is gone and past ;
 In smoke-wreaths gone with the old Hall at last.
 The Lynn we now know but a little way
 Resembles that which bloomed in early day.
 See the huge buildings of the present hour,
 Piled up with bricks as high as Babel's Tower !
 Hear the machines, loud buzzing like a hive
 Of mammoth bees, and every one alive !
 Mark the tall chimneys rising over the scene,
 And fast expresses, rushing through between !
 The steam-car thunders o'er its quivering road,
 The horse-car staggers with its human load.
 And only stops when comes across its range
 A meeting-house, bound off on an exchange ! *
 The people move their lands and tenements
 As readily as Arabs fold their tents ;
 Laugh, and fill up each old and deep-dug well,
 Then hammer down their pipes, and up the waters swell.

* Our friends abroad must not suppose this an exaggeration, as cases of its actual occurrence may be cited. The exchange, indeed, might not be so easy to prove ; but there seems no good reason why the course of the pastor should not be imitated by the meeting-house, when the latter has so good an opportunity.

Soon as the shades of evening supervene,
 Begins the strife of gas and kerosene,
 On either side assembling soon a host,
 And occupying each important post,
 Are not these chambers heated? But inquire;
 You cannot see nor feel a spark of fire!
 But in a darksome chamber under ground
 A Cyclops and his furnace may be found,
 Who mingles flood and flame by arts unknown,
 And for his fuel, burns the very stone!
 Is this Old Lynn? These woods, that, ages since,
 Were every yeoman's boast and confidence,
 Are turned to tracts volcanic, whence the fire
 Sweeps pine and maple, bush and ugly briar,
 Till lands that once our grandsires prized so well,
 And gladly *bought*, are only fit to *sell*!

Oh, what would happen, if we could unbind
 The bands of Death, and lead the astonished mind
 Of old John Burrill back to Lynn once more;
 Her Clerk for thirty years, her pride for many a score?
 How would his spirit stand aghast to see
 The wonders wrought by his posterity!
 The Common fenced; the "Tunnel" gone entire;*
 The town disguised with frequent street and spire;
 The flag of Britain changed for Stars and Stripes;
 The cocked-up hats for ten-inch "funnel-pipes;"
 Phosphorus matches 'stead of flint and steel;
 St. Louis flour for coarse domestic meal.
 Pictures grow under glass, like monthly pinks;
 The telegraph writes here what Europe thinks;
 Horses go mowing; the wild whistle screams;
 And steam-fire engines jet their torrent streams.
 Oh, good John Burrill! our first Councillor,
 To whom we barely now have added four!†
 What staggering hesitations — woful doubts —
 Would come across his spirit, as the shouts
 Of modern Lynn should strike upon his ear,
 Strange as the language of an unknown sphere!
 With naught to link this era to his own
 Save old High Rock and its unchanging stone.
 The bluff Nahants, the river serpentine
 That winds through Saugus and her meadows green.

* The old meeting-house of the First Church, familiarly known as the "Tunnel," was removed from the Common, where it had for many years been a notable object, in 1827.

† Lynn has been successively represented in the Executive Council of the State, by Hon. JOHN BURRILL, Hon. EBENEZER BURRILL, Hon. EZRA MUDGE, and Hon. JOHN B. ALLEY. To these is to be added the name of Hon. ROLAND G. USHER, the late Mayor.

And here and there some portions, worn and spoiled,
 Of the old marsh-dyke that the fathers piled;
 But not a dwelling that he ever knew,
 But is removed, torn down, burnt, gone from view.
 And seeing how with houses we behave,
 He 'd pause, and sadly say, "They must have moved my grave."

But would we have his Lynn instead of ours,
 And barter blushing fruit for fading flowers?
 Nay, let the worthy past the past remain,
 But sound our harp to a more vigorous strain!
 Why should our host of twenty thousand souls,
 Whose craft is known as far as ocean rolls,
 Whose purse holds half a score of millions now,
 Envy those villagers behind the plow?
 'T was theirs to break the clod and sow the grain;
 To clear the oak and savage from the plain;
 To dig the marble from its quarry-bed,
 And roll it forth with toil of hand and head.
 'T is ours to reap that grain, and haste to feed
 The multitude, that crowd and cry for need.
 'T is ours to hew that marble into form,
 And make it beautiful; nay, even warm
 With vital spirit. Late indeed we are:
 Too long the world has waited for your share,
 O men of Lynn! till cavils, taunts and jeers
 Have come to be familiar to your ears.
 "Yon 've four great names," say they, "in history, —
 Gray, Pitcher, Veal, and the Great Serpent of the Sea!"

Hand back the insult! What if we confess
 We never wore the ermine on our dress;
 We never had diplomas for our toil,
 Nor built up colleges upon our soil;
 We banished our first lawyer,* and were shy
 Our place in General Court to occupy;
 Confess, indeed, that never, from the first,
 Was any learned greatness by us nursed?
 We are not holden for our fathers' sin!
 Nor *must* we stay where we have always been.
 Our record, written since we knew our place,
 Reads not to our discredit or disgrace!
 Nay, we will boast! There was a day when Wrong
 Round SUMTER wound her slimy folds and strong.

* "In 1808, BENJAMIN MERRILL, Esq., the first lawyer at Lynn, came into town. . . . A deputation of the citizens called on him, with the request that he would leave the place, it being apprehended that evil and strife would abound wherever a lawyer's tent was pitched. He took the matter in good part, and soon departed." [History of Lynn, p. 370.]

And father ABRAHAM called for help, and cried
 To the Great People! Did ye see our pride?
 Upleaping, with no stop for second breath, —
 Like the Black Roderick's clansmen on the heath, —
 Or panther springing to avenge the death
 Of her own young, — full in the monster's teeth,
 Saw ye their mass that stern two hundred east
 Like heavy javelin, flying keen and fast,
 Baptized with weeping? — while the trumpet-twang
 Of their clear cry through Massachusetts rang
 Like the wild horn the dying Roland blew!
 "WE HAVE MORE MEN THAN GUNS! WHAT SHALL WE DO!"

There spoke the spirit of the sires once more!
 Let cavillers put *that* upon the score!
 But now a different scene comes o'er my eyes,
 Far from this place and its hilarities;
 I see Antietam's gory field of corn,
 And hills of Gettysburg, by cannon shorn!
 Fair Spotsylvania weeping blood I see;
 The Wilderness, and dead by every tree!
 By Petersburg I hear the thundering mine;
 By Weldon's track I mark the saber shine!
 I see the fort, the hospital, the tent,
 And vultures following where the Eagle went!

And 'mid it all a calm, strong man goes on*
 With step untiring, and a voice whose tone
 Is music to the soldier, as he kneels
 And binds his wounds, 'mid broken cannon-wheels.
 Or wipes his bleeding brow, and hears the words, —
 The last the thick and clogging breath affords, —
 Treasures them well, and with some keepsake, found
 Next the poor heart, beneath the harness bound.
 "Sends them home tenderly." I see him bring
 The priceless water from the bubbling spring,
 To slake the mad blood-fever: now he lifts
 The battered patriot, when the battle shifts,
 To the soft stretcher, pillowing his head
 With his stout hand, e'en to a safe and quiet bed.

Then when the dim and melancholy night
 Comes brooding down on the retiring fight.

* Lynn will do well to remember, that upon her soil, and of her best and oldest blood, was born, July 3, 1828, GARDINER TUFTS, since Lieut.-Colonel and Agent of the State of Massachusetts for the care of her wounded soldiers. No verification of the picture drawn is needed, beyond the earnest remark of a one-armed veteran to the author — "You can't catch a soldier to say anything against Gardiner Tufts!"

And scattered fires gleam out, and drummers few
 In the dark distance beat the sad tattoo,
 Through the full hospital I see him pass,
 Sleepless, though midnight sands have left the glass.
 With gentle word endeavoring to calm
 The wild delirium, or the soothing balm
 On parched lips dropping softly; soon is he
 By yonder cot-side, writing on one knee
 In ready tablet, many a tender thought
 That the poor shattered arm can handle not,
 Nor musket more, and ere the breaking day
 The message flies to those that cannot bear delay.

I see that strong man, when the field of slain
 Has been relieved, and stillness rules again,
 Bringing the weeded widow on his arm,
 With cheerful speech composing her alarm,
 Past the long line where fallen heroes sleep,
 To where one separate, greenly-verdured heap
 Bears the dear name that *she* cannot forget
 Till her own life-sun shall grow dim and set.
 He points the record true; her sad commands
 He executes with swift and willing hands.
 And her "God bless you!" is his rich reward.
 The widow's draft, accepted by the LORD!

Oh, type of manly mercy! Is there one
 That envies not what such a hand has done?
 What were the sheen of coronets and crowns, —
 The dignity of titles and of gowns, —
 The rule of armies, — to the honor gained
 By him whom smitten thousands call their Friend?
 Whom does he personate? Who claims his kin?
 Hark! Muse of History, write it! THAT WAS LYNN!

Ring out, ye gala-bells, your merriest peal!
 Sound, cornets! and ye tuneful reeds, unseal
 Your birdlike throats, and make these autumn hours
 To blossom full with wealth of music-flowers!
 Oh, glorious Flag of our America!
 We put thee on, our freedom suit to-day!
 Nobler than toga that the Roman wore,
 Grandeur than purple of an emperor!
 Why should we not rejoice? Who gives us blame?
 Writing, with songs, upon these walls our claim
 To rank among the cities of the age,
 And win fair mention upon Time's full page!

Be glad, ye people! Dedicate your Hall
 With honors! Bring the strangers, one and all.
 And point and say, "We earned and builded this!
 No despot laid these stones: no dark abyss
 Engulfed a thousand helots, that this pile
 Might rise, commemorating crime so vile!
 But freemen reared these arches, and are paid:
 And freemen own them, and shall be obeyed
 Whene'er the sacred suffrage shall ordain
 Who shall sit here and hold the public rein."

O that this day had lasted! or that Death
 Had paused awhile; for even now, beneath
 The fallen leaves how many lie, whose eyes
 Had looked with joy on these solemnities!
 Oh sainted man, whose clear and faithful pen
 Left such fair record for all coming men,
 Striving to have thy page unstained and right,
 As thine own spirit in thy Master's sight,
 Could not thy ripe years linger ere their fall,
 A little longer? — for this festival
 Seems incomplete without thy brow serene,
 Lending a silent radiance to the scene!
 Oh, once how beautiful to see thee stand,
 When Faction hotly clenched her hasty hand;
 And when the freemen of the former Lynn
 Wrangled and dazed themselves with spiteful din,
 Came thy mild words like oil upon the wave,
 And Wrath grew calm, and Rage forgot to rave!
 Good old TOWN CLERK!* thou Christian, art not here.
 We cannot give thee welcome to our cheer!
 God grant that thou instead, in vesture bright,
 Walkest where walls are built of chrysolite,
 And naught a window needs, nor lamp to burn,
 In the pure light of God's own smile eterne!

And yet another face I fain would see,†
 But miss it still. Tell me, how can it be?
 Where art thou, champion of this building fair,
 Who fought for it when others did not dare?

* THOMAS BOWLER, Clerk of the Town of Lynn from 1831 to 1848, died July 23, 1867, respected by all who knew his excellent qualities.

† OTIS NEWHALL, for many years Keeper of Pine Grove Cemetery, and Censor of Births, died Jan. 9, 1867, beloved by all his fellow-citizens, being at the time an Alderman elect of the city. Of five sons sent by him into the army, one fell at the second battle of Bull Run, and one perished at Andersouville.

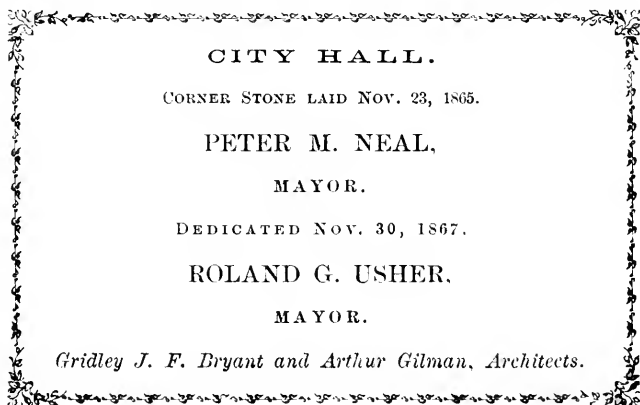
'T is finished now — complete — and art thou gone?
 And wilt thou never see one single stone?
 Art thou not hindered where the pine grove sighs?
 Or charmed by some sweet infant's crystal eyes?
 Thou, who didst mark our births and burials here, —
 Thou, who didst watch the cradle and the bier, —
 What dread injunction can withhold thee now
 From mingling in this throng thine ever sunny brow?
 Vain, vain! no trumpet of perennial joy,
 No mother, singing to her infant boy,
 No loyal gathering, thirsting for the right,
 No public service, stretching through the night,
 Can waken thee, or summon thee afresh,
 To hold communion with the things of flesh!
 Not thy five patriot sons, reduced, alas!
 To three, can call thee from the Silent Pass.
 Though crying with that agony of will
 That hurled them 'gainst the foe at Malvern's bloody hill.
 No, thou art gone! Kind hands have laid thee down,
 With love and weeping, where so oft thine own
 Had others laid; and now the winds go by,
 And strew thee o'er with blessings, tenderly;
 While little children plant thy grave with vines.
 And garnish the green turf with eglantines.
 Breathe soft, ye horns! — one gentle chord shall be
 For him whom all Lynn knew, — who knew no enemy!

And now, ye chambers fair, ye virgin halls.
 Ye alcoves, where my voice unworthy falls
 This time, the first and last, perhaps, yet hear
 Its final echoes, ere their tone shall disappear!

Long be the age, — far hence the day of gloom.
 When Ruin o'er you shakes his sable plume!
 When these worn walls, like others, spread the plain.
 And none so poor to build them up again!
 Far be the day that brings contempt and sneer
 For what we hallow with our prayers sincere.
 Or hostile ranks, with cursed and cruel ire,
 To give your marbles to the crackling fire!
 Far be the day when Faction shall embroil
 The sons of Lynn, and with Cabal shall spoil
 Your vestal dignities, and give you o'er
 To prostituting party! Evermore,
 God keep you for his temple-courts, not less
 His erring children to protect and bless,
 Than where his praise is sung; but here his plan.
 Eternal Justice and the Rights of Man!

Oh, when upon this side the River dark
 There shines not — lingers not — one vital spark
 That warms before me now — when all these eyes
 Are gone to look on the Eternities, —
 Still, 'neath your sheltering ceilings may there sit
 Our city's visible strength, her judgment fit.
 Her heart of merey; while no hateful stain
 Of civic badness, like the brand of Cain.
 Upon your walls a moment's place shall gain.
 Then shall my harp have not been strung in vain!
 Then shall there blessings scatter as the rain.
 And men bow down their hearts like ripened grain!
 Put off thy shoes, O Lynn, with awe profound!
 The place thou standest on shall then be Holy Ground!

This exercise was listened to with the closest attention throughout, and frequent and flattering applause attended its delivery and followed upon its conclusion. The band added the solemn and moving strains of "*America.*" At this moment City Marshal ALLEN G. SHEPHERD, standing at the right of the speaker's desk, gave a signal to Officers JOSEPH A. HATHAWAY and MERRITT S. FOYE, placed in the rear. They immediately drew aside the drapery of flags that had graced the centre, and displayed to the eyes of the audience a beautifully carved marble tablet, placed in the wall, and bearing in letters of gold the following inscription: —



As the cheers which were given at sight of this elegant and appropriate work begun to subside, the Mayor introduced to the assembly Judge JAMES R. NEWHALL, who addressed the citizens as follows : —

Fellow-Citizens. — Whoever takes a view from the tower of the edifice in which we are now assembled, cannot fail to be impressed by the magnificence of the scene presented. The woodland hills, skirting along the back-ground, the outlying fields and meadows, and, more than all, the glorious ocean, present natural features that are ever charming to the eye. And then he looks down and around upon the wide-spread city, with its countless habitations, of every hue and every style, with here and there some ponderous business structure lifting its pretentious head far above the common level. And then upon the busy streets, with their population of men, eager in their various pursuits ; women flitting about in their gay colors ; hurrying vehicles of every description ; all dwarfed by the distance, but forming a most pleasing feature of a stirring picture. These sights are at once attractive and interesting to the merely curious observer.

But the reflective spectator will look beyond. As he hears the hum of business arising from every quarter, — the rumbling of machinery and the sharp click of the busy tool ; as he sees the flaunting insignia of vigorous trade displayed on every hand, — he is led almost to do homage to that enterprise which controls and sustains such activity. Yet he remembers that these things pertain to merely individual progress, and that there is a higher interest which overshadows all, — that comprehensive public interest which looks to the general good, irrespective of the individual, — and realizes that as without an enlightened and liberal government no nation can truly prosper, so without such a government no true prosperity in a single city can be attained.

Here is to be the “ head centre ” of our city government, the regulator of our municipal interests, the fountain-head of our collective prosperity. And is not the edifice which we now dedicate a worthy monument of the liberality and sense of fitness possessed by our rulers ? Would not anything short of this rather do us dishonor ? And can any one claim that it indicates anything more than our present attainment in population and thrift in business ? But elegant halls do not make wise legislators, any more than does sumptuous raiment make wise men or virtuous women. Yet there is a fitness

of things, a harmony, that must be preserved, or we feel a jar. Appearances, though sometimes deceitful, quite as often possess a ruling power.

From the tower above us, the eye of the observer, as it roves toward the sea, will rest a moment on once picturesque and romantic Sagamore Hill, now crowned by airy habitations. There, upon that charming crest, within the sound of the ever-rolling sea, it may be said the first council-place of Lynn was located; but it was before the name of Lynn was known on this side of the ocean, and while the land was still in possession of the race who preceded us. But the social economy of that race was circumscribed, and the tawny rulers had few public interests to consider; therefore a wide-spreading tree was sufficient as a place for their deliberations. Upon that commanding hill, around which cluster so many traditions of stirring interest, the wise men of that now forlorn and almost extinct race pursued their deliberations, uttered their rugged eloquence, settled their rude policy. And who shall say that for them and for their interests, those councils, held in the open air, were not as sufficient as the councils to be held in this structure will be for us? And who shall say that their decisions, untrammelled by precedent, unhampered by rule, were not as wise and as patriotic as any that will be made here? Then, a few scattered wigwams sent their curling smoke upward among the giant trees that occupied the beautiful plain on which our city smiles. The arts of civilized life were unknown,—even those primary ones which we can hardly conceive of being unknown wherever man exists. And no prophetic eye looked forward to the wonders of this, our day,—this day, when, still lingering in the tower, we behold churches and school-houses rising in every quarter, and pointing to interests and duties of a higher nature than all the vaunted progress in the useful arts and the business relations of life,—interests and duties in comparison with which need hardly be named even those wondrous achievements of science and art, by which the locomotive is sent whirring through our midst, and intelligence is conveyed on the silent wings of lightning to the uttermost corners of the continent, and even beyond the ocean. What, we may well ask, would the little band of settlers, who on that bright June day, in 1629, pitched their tents on this smiling plain, and began to call it their new home, have thought, had one appeared to them, and foretold that by the time their children of the seventh generation should appear upon the stage of life, but two or three hours would be required for communication with friends far away in the Old World: that messages could thus speedily be

driven from continent to continent, beneath the stormy waves, upon which they had for months been tossed in peril and in dread. Yet, knowing their principles, their discouragements, and the objects of their immigration, we may conclude that they would have been as greatly astonished and more highly rejoiced had some prophet foretold the great onward march of civil and religious liberty in this then benighted and forlorn heritage, and the grandeur of the attainment within these comparatively few years.

And as we still linger reflectingly in the tower, how natural is the transition from the past to the future, — how natural the imagination as to what will be the appearance of things as far in the future as the first settlement is in the past. Then, the progress of the community may have been such that this edifice will have passed its usefulness; these walls will have begun to bear the marks of age, and to look quaint and unfashionable, and these apartments to be all insufficient for the public purposes. Our streets will then be lined with towering structures of brick and stone; the adjacent hills adorned with villas and lordly seats; and the ear will be greeted by the musical chimes issuing from some commanding tower that will look down benignantly upon the one or two church edifices of this day that will have survived the leveling of time. The streets will be crowded by a jostling population, bedecked in raiment of material and fashion that is not within the scope even of our imagination; and they will gaze into the windows of the picture-shops, and laugh at the quaint and ludicrous appearance of their fathers and mothers of this generation. Theatres and halls of song will attract the seekers for amusement. And will there not be, too, noble charities at work; feeling hearts and benevolent hands: all the blessed machinery that can aid in making mankind better and happier? But as to the improvements in science and art that may take place within the period, who shall venture a prediction? In view of what has been done during the past few years, it would hardly be matter of astonishment should means be found by which to traverse the air itself, and move whithersoever one will, literally upon the wings of the wind.

And, extending our glance perhaps a little farther into the future, we reach the time — and that time will come as surely as to-morrow comes — when this structure, in which we are now assembled with feelings of pardonable pride, will be dismantled, and stand forth an almost useless relic of the past, — the pillars fallen, and the very foundations shattered, — a relic of the past, interesting, we may well suppose, at least to the antiquary, who will gaze upon it and talk

of the old, prosperous days when it was erected, and of these, our present city fathers, as strange old dreamers, who, on the whole, were honest, and perhaps had some just conception of the requirements of the time in which they lived, but who would be entirely unfit to manage affairs in those improved days. We may call ourselves the Young America of the present; but they will call us the Old Fogies of the past.

But we must remain no longer in the tower, however pleasing the prospect or grateful the reflections. And but a brief space is left for a glimpse at a few of the apartments.

Here is the Library Room; a spacious apartment, which, in future years, may be the storehouse from which will be drawn the most satisfying aliment the cultivated mind can crave. We are now able to point the stranger to a room that no library may feel ashamed to occupy. But when that stranger inquires about the library itself, it will not be so easy to return a satisfactory answer. Now, indeed, is the golden opportunity for some wealthy citizen to give his name a local immortality, and do a lasting good to the community, by bestowing such a donation as will make the library what it ought to be, and relieve that cherished institution from the good-natured reflections of strangers, that will surely come if improvement be not speedily made.

Now cast a look into the magnificent Council Rooms. Here will the grave fathers meet to debate the great matters that are to accelerate or retard the wheels of our municipal progress. Here will industrious tongues develop all sorts of new ideas, some commanding and fruitful, others, possibly, incomprehensible and barren. But we are bound to believe that none will be found here but such as are zealous for the good of the community they represent. Lynn has always had worthy and sound counsellors to advocate her interests. When she was yet in her infancy, she had, among other noble souls, the venerable Whiting, whose virtuous spouse, though her head now lies as low as the humblest in yon burying-place, sprang from a direct line of royalty, and could, without one broken link, trace her ancestry to the great Danish sovereign, Canute, who, to teach his courtiers the folly of obsequious flattery, in such a significant way commanded the sea not to pass the bound which he had set. The town received its name from the revered man; and for nearly half a century he continued to labor diligently and pray fervently for her prosperity. And then there was the wise John Burrill, who was Town Clerk for thirty years, a Representative in the General Court for more than twenty years, speaker, judge and counsellor; and who was constantly

performing the duties of the more humble town offices during almost the entire period of his mature life ; who labored much, for no reward save the consciousness of performing his duty, and the hope of benefiting the community in which he dwelt. Then there was Oliver Purchis, conspicuous in the colonial councils, useful in the management of town affairs, and ever on the alert — especially in the troublous times of Andros — to see that none of the interests of Lynn were compromised. There, also, was Robert Bridges, who for many years held the high colonial office of Assistant, was Speaker of the House of Representatives, and also a member of the Quarterly Court. He also lent efficient aid in managing town affairs, and probably felt that he was doing a good work while exercising his magistratic authority for the suppression of that Quaker heresy which puritanical fervor could not brook. But I cannot further enumerate. None of these were accustomed to assemble in such luxurious halls as are here provided. In some cold corner, supplied with rough benches, under uncertain shelter, perhaps with their heads sprinkled by rain or powdered by snow, by the flickering light of a tallow-dip, they discussed questions which involved as really great principles as any which will ever be brought up for consideration within these walls. And who shall say that those questions were not discussed as faithfully, and determined as wisely, as any will ever be discussed and determined here? The luxurious seats which our municipal representatives will here occupy may have a tendency to lull the senses and induce repose ; but we have no fear that the sentinels who assemble here from the various sections of the city will be guilty of sleeping at their posts.

There is a natural apprehension of the fitness of things in all well ordered minds. And this leads to that more decorous course of behavior in a place of elegant appointments than in a place less carefully arranged. Governed by this rule, then, how extremely courteous and circumspect must be the conduct of those who assemble under this roof ; and how incongruous would seem anything coarse or violent. True, one may point to our national capitol for examples that would seem to make havoc of any such theory ; but it will be observed of what class of minds I spoke, and remembered that to all rules there are exceptions. There is, however, I apprehend, no fear that these halls will ever be desecrated by unseemly behavior. Throughout our whole history, our municipal deliberations have been marked by a degree of courtesy and earnest good-will seldom witnessed, and which is a most promising augury for the future. Our

custom of selecting municipal representatives from different political parties is most praiseworthy, and we trust it may be ever continued. It allays bitterness of feeling and small jealousies, and does much toward silencing the tongue of detraction.

One glimpse we will take into the room of the City Clerk. But here, unhappily for the curious delver, we shall find none of the records which certify of the first doings of our municipal fathers. In the dim light of some closing day, we may imagine the ghost of the venerable Richard Sadler, in his velvet small clothes and embroidered doublet, disappearing in the gathering gloom. — Richard Sadler, the first Clerk of the Writs, and first Town Clerk, who, more than two centuries ago, reared his humble habitation at the foot of the great rock which still perpetuates his name, near the junction of Walnut and Holyoke Streets. He was a man of education and prominence, and acted in the capacity of magistrate as well as Town Clerk. But all his records, together with all the records of two or three of his successors in office, have disappeared, — been burned, it is said. But it is most probable that those records, could they by any possibility be recovered, would now prove objects of curiosity rather than real value; for the most important matters, particularly those relating to the divisions and transfers of real estate, appear also to have found a place on the county records. Indeed, besides what related to real estate, there was little of importance transpiring in those early times. But should a like fate overtake the records of the present period, incalculable mischief would ensue. Look, then, at the perfect safety of the receptacle which is here furnished for these records, and rest fearless of any future loss. We can hardly imagine any danger short of an inundation that would sweep the very building from its foundations, or an earthquake that would take us all down at one fell gulp.

Let us also take a glance into the room of the Police Court. It is not, surely, to be expected that the most enjoyable atmosphere will prevail there, though at the present moment it has such attractions that many of the grave men who now hear me will presently be drawn thither.

The long line of old worthies who performed the magistratic duties of our community have, with scarcely an exception, acquitted themselves with honor and discretion, furnishing examples most profitable for imitation. Though most of the earlier ones took a sufficiently stern view of the breaches of the quaint laws of their times, and meted out penalties which, in these days, might be called cruel and unnatural, they were yet rigid duty-doers, and not obnoxious to the

change of designed oppression. Mr. Sadler has been alluded to ; and he appears to have been in a good degree exempt from some of the more rigorous notions and prejudices of the times. Mr. Bridges has also been before alluded to. He was a man of eminent piety and benevolent tendencies, though he seems almost to have made it a part of his religion to enforce the severe laws against the poor Quakers. Johnson says, "He was endued with able parts, and forward to improve them to the glory of God and his people's good." He was a man of public spirit, and may be said to have been the father of the celebrated iron works established in Lynn in 1643, — the first in America. He was so anxious for their establishment, that he went to England, taking specimens of ore, and finally succeeded in forming a company of wealthy men there. He was likewise employed by the colonial authorities in one or two important missions to the French. And for many years he was one of the most active and useful men in the community, filling, among other high offices, as before stated, those of Representative and Assistant. As a magistrate, his integrity was entirely unquestioned. And he had a hand in making laws as well as executing them. In 1645 he was on the committee to draft "positive lawes" against lying, Sabbath-breaking, profanity, drunkenness, &c. And he was one of the grave men who joined with the Governor in a protest against the prevailing custom of wearing long hair, "after the manner of ruffians and barbarous Indians." But we cannot spend more time in the company of the old magistrates. The Police Court was established in 1849. Hon. Thomas B. Newhall presided as Judge for the first seventeen years, and retired with the well-merited approbation of his fellow-citizens. And may God grant that his successor may not fail in the right performance of the anxious and perplexing duties.

Let us, finally, take a momentary look into those well-appointed receptacles for the temporary confinement of offenders. They are not, indeed, so elegant or pleasing that one need commit an offence for the mere purpose of a few hours' rest there, though doubtless many a vagrant will there find more comfortable quarters than he has been accustomed to in what he calls his home.

And then there are the neighboring lodging-rooms, hospitably provided for unfortunate wanderers and destitute strangers. These, though unpretending, and furnishing no fair prospect of the outer world, are among the most worthy apartments in the edifice. Let us pity the forlorn wanderers who may occupy them. Yes, pity them, and pity, too, their guilty neighbors, many of whom, perhaps, for

want of parental or Christian guidance, from poverty or other distress, have fallen into the snares and traps of the ever-watchful minister of evil.

But we must return from our rapid excursion through the apartments. And, were it not entirely a work of supererogation, I might say a word of those who are presently to occupy the public offices. It would be a delicate task, and I will not assume it, any farther than in a general way to bear witness to the entire fidelity and ability with which our municipal affairs in their various ramifications are administered by the present incumbents. And when all are properly installed in their several niches in this noble edifice, none will doubt that the desirable fitness of things, before alluded to, has been well preserved. And as this generation of public officers passes away, may others succeed, and others still, increasing in wisdom and diligence, as duties multiply and new interests develop. And when, in some remote period, a new edifice must be erected to meet the requirements of the time, may those who gather together to dedicate it assemble beneath the same glorious national flag that now waves above our own heads, rejoicing as citizens of a still united nation, spreading from sea to sea.

On the conclusion of this address the band played "*Hail Columbia*."

The Mayor and the members of the City Council then proceeded to the Council Chamber, where the ceremony of dedication was formally declared to have been accomplished.

From thence the Mayor and members of the City Government, together with a number of invited guests, to the number of two or three hundred, including the ex-Mayors and other past officials of the city, the architects, Messrs. Bryant & Gilman, Dr. George B. Loring, of Salem, Judge Warren, of Charlestown, members of the press of Lynn and other places in the county, the mechanics who had been employed upon the building, and several of our older and prominent citizens, and others, proceeded to the basement story, where tables were spread with a bountiful collation, prepared under

the superintendence of Messrs. J. B. Stiles and G. F. Sleeper. It is needless to say that this part of the exercises was admirably performed, and gave great satisfaction. There was an abundant supply of cold meats, poultry, cake and pastry, and plenty of hot coffee and tea. If any went away dissatisfied or unsupplied, it certainly was not the fault of the caterers, for there was plenty of everything and that which was good. A couple of hours was devoted to this part of the exercises, after which the Mayor and members of the City Government again proceeded to the Council Chamber.

When all who could had obtained places, either upon the floor or in the spacious galleries, Mayor Usher, who presided, rose and said that they had hoped to hear some remarks from J. C. Stickney, Esq., but he regretted to say that he had received a letter from that gentleman stating that he was unable to attend, owing to his mother being at the point of death. He (the Mayor) had now the pleasure of introducing to them a gentleman who had held a high position in the councils of the nation, as the Representative in Congress from this district, and who, by his energy and faith in what he might term the great enterprise of modern times, had contributed more to the success of the great Pacific Railroad than any other man in this section. He begged to introduce to them the Hon. JOHN B. ALLEY.

Mr. Alley, upon coming forward, was greeted with a round of applause, after which he spoke substantially as follows:—

Mr. Mayor and Fellow-Citizens,—This to me is an occasion of great interest,—more interesting, more gratifying, perhaps, or at least as much so, as to any one present. A citizen and a native of Lynn, “I love the land that bore me,” and I rejoice to see around me evidences of such thrift and prosperity as are indicated by the

erection of this beautiful building. Under such circumstances, I cannot but feel gratified upon this, the most interesting occasion in our municipal history. Mr. Mayor, you have kindly alluded to my connection with the Union Pacific Railroad, — an enterprise which to-day excites the wonder and challenges the admiration of the civilized world, — an enterprise which I think but few understand and comprehend in its fullest extent. I may be pardoned, sir, in view of your kind mention of it, for an allusion to that enterprise, especially as it has an important bearing on the interests of Lynn, and as it is an undertaking not only of national importance, but of world-wide interest. When successfully completed it will revolutionize the commerce of the world, and make the city of New York the great city of the earth. (Cheers.) My attention was called to it many years ago, and from its first inception to the present time I have taken the deepest interest in its projection, and have contributed whatever I could, in means and effort, to promote its success; and I am proud to tell my fellow-citizens that three days ago we received the gratifying intelligence, in a telegram from the engineer of the road, that the line was *completed* to the base, and graded to the summit, of the Rocky Mountains (Cheers), and if they had good weather it would soon be entirely completed to the summit. Think of it, Mr. Mayor, — within one month from this time there will be complete railway communication from Lynn to the summit of the Rocky Mountains. I am glad to say, fellow-citizens, — for it is but little known, and for some reason it seems to have been concealed from the public view, — that the success of this great enterprise was due more to the capitalists and enterprise of Massachusetts men than to all the rest of the country combined. A few capitalists of Massachusetts alone, almost, had the courage to invest their money, and it appears certain now that they will undoubtedly meet with the success they so eminently deserve. (Cheers.) When we consider what vast consequences are to flow from the completion of this road, which will connect the rock-bound coast of the Atlantic to the golden shores of the Pacific, and send all the travel from Western Europe, and all the valuable commerce of Asia, China and the East Indies *via* California, through the United States, it is easy to see that New York would become what London now is, the great city of exchanges for the world. Mr. Mayor, I am somewhat of an enthusiast upon this subject, and some of my friends say that I have got the Pacific Railroad “on the brain.” (Laughter.) I can only say that if I leave no other inheritance to my children than that of being somewhat instrumental in the consummation of this

great work, they will be able to say that their progenitor has not lived in vain.

But enough of this. I desire to say a few words about the good old town of Lynn, which will be more appropriate, perhaps, than a speech upon the Pacific Railroad. I feel deeply interested in its prosperity. When I consider what Lynn was, and what she is to-day, I cannot but feel, in common with all others, deeply grateful for its prosperity and proud of its success. But I must say that I think that Lynn never had full justice done her, at any period of her history, in regard to the business she has prosecuted. There is no more honorable calling than shoemaking, — no branch of productive industry more important to the country than the shoe and leather interest of to-day. The history of improvement in shoemaking is but the history of the progress of civilization in all ages of the world. Go back to the days of the ancient Greeks, — and they were the first that we have any account of as wearing shoes, — you will find that those of them who wore any protection to the feet at all, wore sandals of leather and linen, fastened over the instep by straps. That continued for centuries; and upon investigating this subject you will find that the progress of shoemaking in comfort and in universality of use kept even pace with the growth of civilization. It is an industry which has received the fostering care of all governments of the world, and has been, over and over again, the subject-matter of legislative enactments, both in the Old World and the New. I was glad to hear the Mayor, in his able and interesting address, speak of the history of shoemaking in this town. He spoke of its receiving its first impetus in 1750, — before which it was of but little importance, — when a Welshman named Dagyr came here, and was so superior a workman, and taught so many apprentices, that he gave an impetus to the trade it had never received before. I beg the Mayor's pardon when I say that Lynn *before* that period was noted for making good shoes. The first instance I know of Lynn being mentioned as a shoemaking town was in the first newspaper ever published in this country, by James Franklin, a brother of Dr. Franklin, which in 1720 mentioned Lynn favorably as a shoemaking town. From that time till 1750 little was known of it, but the trade gradually increased. In that year Dagyr came over here, and was very distinguished as a shoemaker. He was spoken of in the *Boston Gazette* of that day as the celebrated shoemaker of Essex County. In 1764 the *London Chronicle* spoke of Lynn shoes as being better made and of better style than most of the shoes imported from England. That is a tribute

from a London paper more than a hundred years ago, to the superiority of Lynn shoes, of which we may well be proud.

Fellow-citizens, I cannot but feel great satisfaction in the fact that I have been a shoemaker, as most of my fellow-citizens have been at some period or another of their lives, — whatever be their station now, high or low, — and a more noble calling, as I have said before, no man ever had. Full justice has never been done to this interest. It has always been regarded as a calling that was hardly equal, or at least not above, other callings of a similar character. I contend that it is not only equal, but in historic interest it is superior, to almost any other mechanical trade or calling. Statisticians tell us, as an historic fact, that more distinguished men have risen from the shoemaker's bench than from any other mechanical branch of industry. Now this is a fact that the shoemakers of Lynn should know and take encouragement from. This, I suppose, is ascribable to the fact — which all shoemakers of the past will appreciate — that men can work at shoemaking, and have their work progress, while thinking of and discussing other matters, — thus furnishing great opportunity for disciplining and improving the mind, without much hindrance to their employment. As I said before, shoemaking has been the frequent subject of legislation, in the Old World as well as the New. Before the War of the Roses, in England, it was the fashion to wear sharp-pointed shoes, which turned up and came as high as the knee, and were fastened to it. This extravagance was prohibited by act of Parliament in 1465, allowing only the nobility to wear shoes with points turning up more than two inches. About the middle of the sixteenth century it was the fashion to wear square-toed shoes, the toe being eight or ten inches wide. In 1558, Queen Mary issued a proclamation forbidding shoes being worn over six inches wide at the toe. The first revenue act under our government was passed in July, 1789, and ladies' shoes were protected from foreign competition by a duty of seven cents per pair; and Washington, who passed through Lynn about three months after the passage of that act, spoke, upon his return, of Lynn as "the famous shoe town." In 1794 the people of Lynn, finding their business languishing, in consequence of excessive foreign importations of shoes, procured, through the influence of a prominent merchant of Philadelphia, additional protection of five cents a pair. From that time Lynn has progressed steadily, and has now the lead in her specialty, so that it can never be wrested from her, whatever croakers may say to the contrary.

Mr. Mayor, you kindly alluded to my services in the national gov-

ernment. When I look upon the growth of Lynn, as we have seen it exhibited and heard it portrayed here to-day, I feel that the progress she has made, the prosperity she has attained, and the astonishing results she has accomplished, great as they are, and challenging our admiration and gratitude, do not even bear comparison with the great progress of the nation. This nation has not yet had an existence of eighty years, and yet when the First Congress was convened in New York, on the 4th of March, 1789, of the twenty-two Senators elected only eight assembled to inaugurate the new government, and only thirteen Representatives. It was not until the 6th of April, some five weeks elapsing, that, after sending couriers and letters innumerable in all directions over the country, a sufficient number of members could be got together to form a quorum, who counted the votes, and declared George Washington President, and John Adams Vice President, of the United States. At that time there were only eleven States in the Union, and only seventy members elected to Congress, including both Houses; and when Washington was inaugurated, on the 30th of April, 1789, only forty-eight members of both Houses of Congress were present at the inauguration. To-day there are as many States (including Louisiana) west of the Mississippi as there were in the whole Union in 1789. Only think of it, Mr. Mayor, — what a short period of time in which to accomplish such results! Only those few years since we were a feeble nation, hardly able to stand alone. To-day we are the mightiest and most powerful nation on the face of the earth. Our flag waves in triumph over every sea, protecting the citizens of this mighty republic and their rights in every part of the habitable globe. (Cheers.) When we reflect on these facts, how can we feel otherwise than most thankful and grateful to the Author of our being for the privilege of living in such an age and country. (Cheers.) As I looked upon this building to-day, saw its beauty and heard its cost, I could not but reflect upon the public edifices of this country in the past. The building in which the government of the United States was first inaugurated, Old Federal Hall, in New York, and the structure in Independence Square, Philadelphia, where Congress sat for ten years after the inauguration of the new government, could neither of them bear comparison with the new City Hall of Lynn. The great City Hall, in New York, cost, I have heard, only half a million of dollars. It was erected in 1812, and was spoken of as the most magnificent building in the country, the wonder and admiration of the whole American people. Yet we have a building here, dedicated to the use of our municipal authorities, surpassing in

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beauty, and almost equalling in cost, that early structure. But, Mr. Mayor, I will not detain you longer. I have already said more than I intended. Although our country has not yet recovered from the late tremendous struggle, as we could wish, nevertheless we have a bright future before us. Clouds and darkness do indeed thicken around us, but not so deep a darkness as immediately succeeded the close of the Revolutionary War; and the same benignant Providence which guided us through the Rebellion to such a triumphant termination will carry the nation safely through its present perils, and secure permanently to it the greatest of earthly blessings,—civil and religious liberty. (Cheers.)

The Mayor begged to correct a slight misstatement which Mr. Alley had inadvertently made. He had said that the City Hall of New York had cost over half a million, and this building nearly as much as that. That was a mistake. This building had only cost a little more than half as much as the City Hall in New York, —less than \$300,000.

Mr. Alley explained that he did not mean to say that this building cost as much as that, but only comparatively approximating its cost, and only mentioned it to illustrate the expansion of our ideas, the growth of our country, and the prosperity of our people. He had supposed, however, that the cost of this beautiful structure exceeded the amount mentioned by the Mayor, and was glad to be corrected.

The Mayor here remarked that we were favored with the presence of the man who was to be remembered as having laid the corner stone of this edifice. He took great pleasure in introducing our late Mayor, Hon. PETER M. NEAL.

Mr. NEAL then addressed the audience as follows:—

I have heard of a gentleman who, on being called on to speak at an entertainment, said he was taken entirely unawares, and had made no preparation. He spoke for a few minutes very fluently, and then

began to rub his head for an idea. He finally put his hand into his pocket, drew out a manuscript, and finished his speech. A wag afterwards said to him, "Well, sir, it was very lucky you had that manuscript in your pocket, or I don't know how you would have got through." When I had an invitation here to-day, I presumed that some one might urge me to say a few words, so I took the precaution of putting a manuscript into my pocket. (Laughter.)

A few thoughts suggest themselves of the times when this building was projected, or rather when we first thought of building a new City Hall. It was in the year 1863, during the darkest of those dark days of the rebellion, when call after call was being made upon us for men and money to continue the gigantic struggle,—when the thoughts of all were turned to the great scheme before us, some with fear, but most with redoubled energy to battle for the right. And although we have no doubt that a hall could have been built then much cheaper than at any time since, yet such was the uncertainty of things, — and as we knew not what might be required of us before the rebellion was put down, or how often the coffers of the rich might be drawn upon, and that heavily, too, or what might be the pressure upon the mechanic and laboring man before we of the North should be able to conquer a peace, — that the committee having the matter of perfecting plans and arrangements for building, hesitated. They could not think it right to report in favor of commencing any great improvement, that would require any considerable outlay, till it was morally certain that we had enough to finish up the great work then before us. That time at length arrived, when our arms were everywhere victorious, and we knew that we had a country. Although the people were heavily taxed, yet we thought we knew the worst, — that we could see the end. The committee then reported in favor of building; the foundations were laid, and upon those foundations this magnificent building, that we have met together this day to dedicate, has been raised with commendable diligence by the city governments of the last two years. Some may think it rather extravagant, but what does it amount to? — a tax of one and three-quarters per cent. would pay the whole cost if laid at once, or one-eleventh of one per cent. annually assessed upon our valuation will pay the debt in twenty years,—an amount altogether too insignificant to be seriously thought of when we take into consideration that we have built a City Hall that is an ornament to our city, and one that will last for a century, and be ample for our children's children. I for one am glad that we have got it, and that we have got just such a building as we have,

and I am willing to take my part of the odium, if odium there is to be, of being one who assisted in inaugurating this piece of extravagance. We have got the tallest kind of a City Hall, and let us see to it that none but the tallest kind of men occupy it. The old City Hall was commenced during the last war with Great Britain, and completed after peace was proclaimed in 1815. The new building was commenced, too, in a time of war, and finished now after peace is again restored, — a coincidence that is quite interesting to me. May it be an augury of continued prosperity to our city, in the same ratio as this building exceeds in its beautiful proportions our old City Hall, and as our last great struggle exceeded in magnitude and importance that of eighteen hundred and twelve. (Cheers.)

The following letter from J. C. STICKNEY, Esq., previously alluded to, was then read by Mayor Usher : —

FOREST PLACE, LYNN, Nov. 30, 1867.

To the Hon. Mayor and City Council of the City of Lynn :

GENTLEMEN, — I have delayed till this morning to make a formal acknowledgment of your kind invitation requesting my presence at the dedication of the new City Hall, accompanied by a ticket of admission to the collation, with the hope of being able to accept it in full.

It will, I have no doubt, be a joyous and interesting occasion to this whole community, — an occasion from which I anticipated great personal pleasure and satisfaction, but one which I am constrained to forego in consequence of the sudden and extreme illness of my only surviving parent. I regret that it must be so, but yield to the law of necessity and filial duty, and submit to the disappointment as well as I can.

I had intended not only to be present with you at the interesting ceremonies of the occasion, but, upon your kind suggestion, to offer at the collation a few remarks on the Lynn of 1867 as compared with the Lynn of 1827, when, as a young adventurer in the law, just admitted to the bar, I was attracted to your pleasant town by the natural beauties of the place, the free and independent, but social, manners and habits of the people, and, most of all, by that unrelenting energy which even then had given to Lynn a local habitation and a name, and made it conspicuous as the "Beehive of Industry."

I thought I saw in all this the elements of a sure and rapid success, and the certainty that Lynn would one day become the leading city of Essex County; and, even at that early time, often ventured the prediction that within twenty years our good old town would become a city with twenty thousand inhabitants.

I intended further to glance at the rapid development of the elementary principle of collective labor, which has made Lynn what she is to-day, and to do homage to that mighty power of human industry which lies at the base of all material prosperity and success, as illustrated here by the long stride from the unpretentious shoemakers' shops, the "ten-footers" of 1827, to those massive and magnificent shoe-factories of the later day, — from the old Town House on the Common, with its bare beams and scraggy walls, to that great model of architectural beauty and grandeur, the new City Hall of Lynn, — a structure worthy of the palmiest days of ancient Greece and Rome. It is an honor, a glory, a triumph of art, which will enure to the benefit of Lynn forever, — a splendid monument to the noble spirit of our free community, and the refined and admirable taste of those who conceived and planned and completed it.

Perhaps I speak warmly on the subject, but my words are in unison with my sympathies and feelings. I have from the beginning taken a deep interest in its construction and finish, and from day to day have watched its progress from "base to pinnacle" with unalloyed delight, — not, however, without a nervous fear that something might occur to mar its "fair proportions and matchless frame."

No one can feel more proud of its faultless completion — its crowning glory — than myself. I can never forget how grand and beautiful it looked, when, casting aside its homely garb of boards and joists, it emerged into the clear sunlight of Heaven, and stood forth erect and chaste as Diana's self, — a thing of beauty and a joy forever.

With the hope that our beloved city may go on forever with continued industry and success, and may prove worthy of her high destiny,

I am, gentlemen, your respectful fellow-citizen.

J. C. STICKNEY.

THOMAS C. CUMMINGS, Esq., then addressed the audience; but his remarks were very imperfectly heard, owing to the music of the band in the outer hall. He said he could trace the prosperity of Lynn, as we saw

it to-day, culminating in the erection and dedication of this City Hall, to the constant virtue, indomitable energy, industry and good government of the people and their officers, since the first settlement of the place. His Honor the Mayor and other speakers to-day had spoken of JOHN ADAM DAGYR. He had himself been favored with an acquaintance with some of that worthy man's descendants, some of whom are yet living, fine examples of that sterling worth he had spoken of. He went on to speak of the old Town Hall, and drew a comparison between it and the present structure; and concluded by an apt poetical quotation referring to the Pilgrim Fathers, to whose principles we are so largely indebted for our prosperity and success.

The next speaker introduced by the Mayor was JAMES N. BUFFUM, Esq., who said: —

Mr. Mayor. — I did not think any man would have the imprudence to call upon me for a speech to-day, so I have not got a speech in my pocket, neither have I one in my head: for, since I have listened to so much eloquence during the day, all the talk I might have had in the beginning is entirely gone. (Laughter.) As I stand before you to-day, I feel like one of the past generation, whose labors have descended unto the children. Let me state that, in the beginning, I felt that the city of Lynn was not quite prepared to build a City Hall of such magnificent dimensions as this. I entered my protest against it at the time, thinking it might have some effect: but when the corner-stone was laid, and the whole scheme prepared, I then willingly said to the Mayor, who asked my opinion, "Go ahead, build it and finish it." The Mayor also asked me another question, which I answered; and as no one has alluded to that point, I will say one word upon it. Having had some experience in my early days as a builder, I told him I thought I knew one person in Lynn whom it would be highly desirable to employ, to attend to the work and see it properly executed. I allude to our fellow-townsmen, Mr. J. W. Tewksbury. (Applause.)

[The Mayor here proposed three cheers for Mr. Tewksbury, which were heartily given.]

I do not intend, sir, that any position I took in the beginning shall now deprive me of the pleasure I derive from contemplating this beautiful building, nor of the privilege of praising it in the manner it deserves. I said that Mr. Tewksbury would perform the work to the perfect satisfaction of every one. I might be allowed to be a tolerable judge of such matters, for I am proud to say that I was once a carpenter myself. And by the way, my friend, Mr. Alley, has enlogized the shoemakers, and we all know that many good and great men have risen from their ranks. We all recognize Mr. Alley himself as a striking and noble illustration of this (applause); but for my side of the question, let us not forget that one who was reputed to be more than man is said to have been a carpenter. I am proud as I stand here to be able to say that I belong to the honorable fraternity of carpenters. (Applause.)

So, sir, I cannot claim to have done anything to lay the corner-stone or to erect or finish the walls of this building, yet I can do as the country sexton did, when his minister had delivered a very eloquent discourse, which was greatly praised. The sexton was anxious to get his share of the applause, and, having no other claim, he said, "Well — I rung the bell!" And if I did nothing to build the City Hall, I will say this, that I recommended the carpenter. (Applause.)

There are people, Mr. Mayor, who say that in building this Hall we have "got an elephant." It may be so, but at any rate he is a good looking one. I do not know about it, but I have done my part of the scolding on this subject in times past. I am not going to scold any more. I will not be so foolish as the tailor in the story, who pricked the trunk of an elephant who came to his window, and got drenched with dirty water for his pains. And so, if I did nothing to build the Hall, I will not be debarred from praising it. I have gone all over it, have examined every part, and I cannot find a wrong mitre or a false joint. Nothing is here but the best workmanship, redounding richly to the credit of all concerned. I have no adverse criticism to offer, not a word. (Applause.)

I wish I could borrow some of the eloquence I have heard here to-day, that I might describe Lynn as it was when I first came here. Mr. Alley says he was born here in 1817, but I cannot go back so far. I did not come here till 1824. Then I boarded in a little house nearly under High Rock. And, by the way, High Rock is a "great

institution," and I would have you understand that I own it still, notwithstanding the Hutchinson Family. High Rock and this City Hall are the two greatest things we have. I remember once when crossing the Atlantic, a gentleman told me that of all the sights in America he desired to see two above all, — Niagara Falls and Dr Channing. And so with Lynn. Whoever comes here in future will inquire for just two things, — High Rock and the City Hall. But not to wander too much, when I came here Lynn had only five thousand inhabitants, and was a "little one-horse town" sure enough. The men of Salem boasted that they owned Lynn, and that it was all covered over with their mortgages. I said to them, "Perhaps you do, but if you own us now, we will own you by and by, or be equal with you, at any rate." Lynn has gone on with increasing energy and perseverance since that time, and now we hear very little about those mortgages. (Applause.) Although two towns have been cut off from Lynn, we have between twenty-five and thirty thousand inhabitants left, and some considerable money.

I remember once, at one of the old town meetings, Jonathan Bacheller, in some remarks, said he did not believe in the principle of towns and cities being in debt any more than individuals, and he therefore moved that the sum of thirteen thousand dollars be raised to pay off the town debt and for other necessary expenses. People cried out with indignation. One old gentleman said he should have to sell his farm to pay the taxes, if this were done. Well, to-day we raise from two to three hundred thousand dollars for current expenses, and that, too, without much grumbling. We have grown so fast in wealth and population that we may well be surprised ourselves. We cannot indeed realize our rapid progress, till we go out beyond the boundaries of our own city, and look at what the nation has achieved, by enterprises in which Lynn has had her full share.

We have abolished slavery, — a work which, some years ago, Henry Clay said would cost twelve hundred millions of dollars, a sum so enormous, in that gentleman's estimation, that it was foolish to think of raising it, — and we have not only abolished slavery, but have put down one of the most gigantic rebellions, gotten up in the interest of slavery, that this world ever saw, though it cost to do it, not twelve hundred, but three thousand millions of dollars, and to-day America stands redeemed, regenerated and disenthralled! (Loud applause.) What if we are rather heavily taxed, and have to struggle hard to pay this debt? We have a country worth working for. Much as we have done, we very imperfectly apprehend our duty and

destiny if we suppose we are to stop where we are. There is great and noble work remaining for us to do. The perfect equality of the human race is to be achieved. This is the great work begun by our fathers, and that which we, their children, intend to consummate.

The hour being now far advanced, the exercises in the Council Chamber were here ended, and the people generally separated for their homes. But the festivities were again resumed in

THE EVENING.

At seven o'clock, P.M., the doors, which had been temporarily closed, were again thrown open to receive a vast company of both sexes and almost every age. The entire building was lighted to the full extent, and the appearance of the multitude in their high enjoyment under the brilliant lamps was beautiful in the extreme. The crowd was probably much greater than that during the day; and, not being kept in place as listeners, they quietly moved from room to room in a constant current, giving an appearance of animation and gayety hard to describe. The band were present, enlivening the whole with their best harmonies. After about an hour, during which the building had been examined and scrutinized with the most eager curiosity and interest by all grades and classes of citizens, His Honor Mayor USHER appeared on the landing of the main staircase, and, calling the assembly to order, introduced to them GEORGE H. CHASE, Esq., who spoke as follows:—

Mr. Mayor and Fellow-Citizens.—I am aware of the difficulty of talking here to-night, and ask your sympathy for various reasons: I ask it particularly because the field has been so well harvested already: the admirable speech of the Mayor, and the wonderfully appropriate poem which you heard this morning, have really left me but little to say. But I am happy, notwithstanding the adverse circumstances

under which I speak, to add my word of congratulation to the people, and with the people of Lynn, upon the completion of this Hall, and upon its admirable adaptation to the purposes for which it has been built. It has been said by many men from the great cities of the Union, that this Hall, considering its excellent adaptation to the ends in view, the beauty of its architecture, and the excellence of its general design and arrangements, is the best building they have yet seen. Of course the people of Lynn naturally feel a great deal of satisfaction on this account, and more especially because Lynn in the past has not been noted for the beauty of its architecture. All the citizens ought to mingle their mutual congratulations on the success which has attended this great municipal enterprise.

Let us here first give credit to those who persistently urged its necessity, and to the councils and committees of different years, who aided in realizing their ideas; next to the architects who gave us the magnificent plans, and last to the committee of the City Council of the present year, and His Honor the Mayor, for the splendid and energetic manner in which the whole has been accomplished.

Fellow-citizens, our friends of neighboring or larger cities may complacently smile, and say that the people of Lynn are over-pleased with this new Hall. Well, we can afford to let them, for we have now got something which we have a right to be pleased with, and the people of Lynn, by their magnificent turn-out to-day, prove that they know how to appreciate it. (Cheers.) In New England the Town Hall has ever been a marked feature, and has almost been considered a sacred institution, for in those towns and villages where there has been no Town Hall, the church has generally been used by the people for the transaction of the public business. When a town, however, gets so large as ours did, that it is necessary for the people to delegate their powers to representatives, then a city government becomes a necessity. The ancient Guildhalls in England served two purposes. In the first place, they were dedicated to certain trades or guilds; and secondly, to the use of the town corporation. This is our Guildhall, and may be considered, in view of the trade to which the people of Lynn are almost entirely devoted, the Guildhall of the shoe trade, and of the ancient and honorable guild of leather. It is right that the people should, in some degree, consider this building as a creation of the shoe trade, which employs so much of the energy of the city. I am not aware that anywhere in this country, if in the world, can there be found so large a community as this devoted so entirely to one branch of business, carried on by personal enterprise and private

capital. The absence of corporative operations, which so distinguish most manufacturing places, is the secret of our general prosperity, and has given to Lynn a distinctive character. We may in some degree consider this Hall as sacred to St. Crispin, the patron or tutelary saint of the shoemakers. Legendary history tell us that Crispin and Crispinian were of good and noble birth; the craft was called the "gentle craft of leather;" the annual festive day was an occasion of great merry-making and display.

We should not undertake to dedicate this Hall without remembering how much leather has had to do with its erection. The mechanics may not have known that they were working it; Messrs. Bryant and Gilman did not mention it in their specifications, but without it this Hall would never have risen, and the old lapstone of our shoemakers is the real corner or foundation stone. We should remember here how largely we are indebted to those pioneers of the trade in times past, owing to whose exertions the trade of Lynn has gradually crept up to its present gigantic proportions. We ought to remember the difficulties of doing business in the olden times,—the want of means of transportation and of communication with the rest of the world. If we were to contrast the scattered little shoemakers' shops, which then formed so marked a feature in our landscape, with the great and noble manufactories which the steam engines and the wonderful machinery of modern times have brought into existence, we could hardly believe that the old town was the parent of our present great and prosperous city. In the days of our fathers a grindstone was about all the machinery to be found in a shoe manufactory. The nimble and wonderful little sewing-machine now does the work which in old times made "Lynn shoe-binders" of most of the girls in the country miles around, and that monstrous but magnificent innovator, the "McKay Machine," has attracted hither a multitude of journeymen. These machines and many others are "strange gods brought into the city," but they have swelled the amount of our industry to an enormous degree. It was the men of the old times, however, who laid a sure foundation for the prosperity of Lynn. But probably all of the change has not been for the better. We should not permit the old shoemaker's shop to pass out of sight and memory without recording that it was a nursery of intelligence. Amid the whirl and noise of machinery information cannot now, as then, be communicated. Then, by common consent, all the hammering was done at one time, so that the reader of political or other news or information might have full sway, and all might hear.

Fellow-citizens, for so large a place the shape and formation of our city is extraordinary, and inconvenient in some respects. It is built chiefly upon a long reach of land, between the hills and the sea. Our fathers did not huddle down together. The Ingalls and the Woods settled at Woodend, and it is "Woodend" to this day; the Breeds made their home at the west end, and thus we have "Breedsend;" the Newhalls settled on Boston Street, and have industriously multiplied and scattered all about, enlarging the directory and making a good family record; others went to Shepard Street, Sagamore Hill, and Gravesend. Now it is fair to suppose that these sturdy Puritan ancestors of ours, in settling thus two hundred and thirty years ago, did so without regard to the "*depot question*," but in this may have originated some of our local difficulties. Owing to the shape of Lynn, we undoubtedly lose many advantages which would accrue to a more compact city. Let us consider this magnificent Hall of ours an example of what can be done if we will put away, as far as possible, all small local and neighborhood jealousies.

There is a class of buildings recently erected in Lynn, and this is the most notable example, which seem to indicate that the moving era is passing away. Quite a large number of persons made moving buildings a business; certain buildings had a well established character for itineracy, and during the last four years buildings passed about the streets about as often, if not as regularly, as the horse cars. I congratulate the people that it would puzzle even Mr. Lloyd to move their City Hall.

Those who were not present in the morning missed a noble and gratifying spectacle. Seated around the gallery were more than one hundred of our old men, — all more than three score and ten. Many of them had performed long and faithful service in the old town government. There was a fine representation of the old moderators, — some, Mr. Mayor, who have been severely tasked to control in town meeting the youthful political impulses of some who hold high places in the Hall which we have dedicated to-day. I would name as representatives of the old men who have done Lynn good service, and who to-day receive our respect and gratitude, Hon. Stephen Oliver and Benjamin Mudge, Esq. I will not undertake to say how long they have been intimately connected with the history of Lynn. Many, too, are gone, who have been contemporary with us. I recall the pleasant countenance of the old Town Clerk, who for eighteen years served us so well, and who, within a year following those who had gone before, passed away amid expressions of sincere love and re-

spect. Well will it be for us, fellow-citizens, if the men who occupy these municipal chambers in the future shall do as well as did the men who are represented by those to whom I have just referred.

May this beautiful Hall somewhat influence our best men to accept places here in the service of the people, and the business in all the departments be done wisely and well. May all the reasonable requests which may come from the chamber on the right, assigned to the School Committee, be heeded by the City Council, and may the library, assigned to the noble apartments on the left, receive liberal aid from the government and the citizens. Thus will something be done to cause the intelligence of Lynn to keep pace with its material enterprise and progress.

It will not be just, fellow-citizens, either to myself or to you, to continue these remarks further, under the present circumstances. I will only, in closing, refer to those town organizations whose territory was formerly a part of Lynn. Lynnfield and Saugus, long since by themselves, and Swampscott and Nahant, those peerless jewels of our coast, who have but lately gone away from home. — may they be successful in all their undertakings, and share in all our success, and may this whole community, taking courage from the congratulations of this day, go on to general prosperity and happiness.

The Mayor then introduced CHARLES E. KIMBALL, Esq., who addressed the assembly substantially as follows : —

Mr. Mayor and Fellow-Citizens. — There is something peculiarly appropriate in our assembling this evening for mutual congratulations. Standing under this magnificent dome, amid the beauties that surround us, if there arise feelings of self-satisfaction, if the heart's pulsations beat quicker, and the emotions of our nature are stirred, it may be pardoned, or carried to the account of the occasion that calls us together.

Some writer has said, "The characteristics of every age and people are emblazoned in their public edifices. The handiwork of the artizan bears some visible evidence of its creator, something of his individuality is stamped thereon, undefinable, nevertheless linking him to his creation. The history of every age has been written in stone, as well as poetry and song."

How much of the social, political and religious life of antiquity has been unfolded through their public buildings. Nineveh, which

has slumbered in its tombs for centuries, over whom the sands of the desert for two thousand years have swept, thus imbosoms herself to Layard and Champollion, who have communicated to us mysteries so long veiled.

Her public structures were the visible manifestations of the civilization of that age, the embodiment of the ideas of that era. The structure we have to-day dedicated to municipal purposes as clearly defines our progressive ideas, tastes, and respect for government. Grand and beautiful as are the architectural proportions, and elaborate the embellishments of this building, it becomes insignificant when contrasted with the idea it symbolizes. We are here to-night because Lynn has fostered, honored and dignified labor, — labor that has interlaced our continent with a network of iron bands; that has harnessed steam, and sent its messengers whirling through the valleys, winding around the mountains and coursing over the prairies; that has trenched our canals, and poured into our laps the wealth of distant states; that has studded our seas with sails, and brought us the products of universal climes; that has etherealized thought and sent it forth on wings of lightning; that has reared our mills and made them vocal with its song; that has bored into the mountains and embowelled the earth, bringing forth their treasures for mankind.

Labor in the vineyard of Thought has laid its products at the foot of the Press, and Science, Philosophy, History, Knowledge, lie at the doorway of men.

It laid the foundation of this city more than two hundred years ago, and with each advancing year it has builded thereon, enlarging its resources and capabilities, — from the forest to a settlement, from a settlement to a town, from thence to a city, until this beautiful and capacious structure is demanded to meet its growing wants.

The labor of toiling brain conceived and elaborated the designs and wrought out in the mind's eye each piece of this vast building; it laid its foundation, reared its walls and crowned the spire, and looking into the face of coming years is to pay its cost.

Within the counting-room and office, in the shop and on the seat, all can rejoice to-day, for it is the hour of the coronation of labor. Hard handed, honest toilers, and men who spend days and nights over their ledgers, may here behold what their industry has wrought. It is true other ages and peoples have reared buildings more massive and extensive than this: Rome had its Pantheon and Coliseum, masterpieces of human toil and endurance, but it was the toil of serfdom; they were the production of a population one-half of whom were

slaves, and the larger portion of the remainder pensioned on the public charity ; — while within our vast domain no man to-day raises his manacled hands to the throne on high, no muffled heart beats to the sorrowful tread of oppression.

This building is the cheerful offering of free labor to government. Dedicated to this purpose, as it has been, we will not forget the source of our prosperity as a people, and, profiting by the suggestions the occasion unfolds, let us continue to honor and encourage labor. There is no place in our Commonwealth where labor is more honored than in Lynn, and it is to be hoped that that industrious spirit which has made us what we are, will ever continue to animate us, and we shall find that the beauty and grandeur of this magnificent temple will be as nothing in comparison with the moral beauty which shall flow in the future from an intelligent, industrious and virtuous community. (Loud applause.)

Mayor USHER said, "I will now introduce to you, fellow-citizens, an old resident among you, and a lineal descendant of the first white child born in Lynn. You will be glad to listen to the Hon. THOMAS B. NEWHALL."

Mr. NEWHALL laid aside his overcoat and said : —

I take off my coat, but I hope you will not take that as an indication of any extended remarks from me. I think the citizens of Lynn have had speeches enough to-day, and therefore my observations will be exceedingly brief. I avail myself of the opportunity you have given me, Mr. Mayor, to say a good word for the family I represent, and to add my felicitation upon the completion of this edifice. I am glad to see so many people here to-day, for Lynn has a right to rejoice on this occasion. For a long time previous to the calamity which created such a sensation and made the erection of this Hall a necessity, Lynn had been afflicted with a building so unfit for the purposes of public business that it had become a disgrace to the city ; and so unsuitable was it in point of architectural proportions and finish, in insufficiency of room, that all felt that the time had arrived — although the circumstances of the country were adverse to the undertaking of any large or extensive enterprise — when the public character and reputation of the city demanded that a new City Hall should be built. It cannot, however, be denied that when the very large expenditures contemplated for that purpose were made public,

many of our more conservative citizens regarded the cost with feelings of great apprehension. I am almost ready to confess that I myself was one of that number, but I am happy to say now that I believe those apprehensions have given way to feelings of a far different character. There is no doubt that we are all interested in whatever tends to promote education, or to increase in any manner the facilities for transacting public business, or to improve the character of the city, and I think the building we have now answers these purposes. I congratulate you, Mr. Mayor, and your associates and predecessors, on the good taste and public spirit which has given us a building so beautiful both in design and finish. I repeat that we ought to have such a building. Look at the history of Lynn from the earliest period, and it has been, through the providence of God, a history of progress in whatever helps to make men happy, — an increase in wealth, population, in the comforts of home, in the education of the rising generation, and in respect and love for the Christian religion. Why should we not, then, as far as in us lies, aid in improving the character of the city and the tone and sentiment of the people? Look at our surroundings, with the beautiful hills and forests on the one side and the magnificent ocean on the other, and it is due, I think, to our character that we should add something to the natural beauties of our scenery by art or by architecture, or however else we may. This is not an occasion to discuss the question of the beneficial influences of the higher styles of architecture, in public and private buildings, on the community in which they are placed. It is, I believe, the concurrent testimony of all observers that the influence is large, and I am very happy, Mr. Mayor, that the present building will afford us an opportunity of practically testing the value of that influence. I will not, however, extend my remarks further, but inasmuch, sir, as you have alluded to me as a member of one of the most numerous families of Lynn, — you might have said, I think, the most numerous family, — I will take occasion to say a word or two on that subject. A friend of mine this morning said that although pride was not one of his weaknesses, yet he was proud of being a shoemaker. I do not think that pride is one of my weaknesses, and yet I will say I am proud of my pedigree. I am proud of being the descendant of the first white child born upon the territory of our town. And I think, sir, among the very good things done for the city of Lynn, the mother of that child did the very best thing. (Applause.) This family is not only numerous, but I think I may say, without ostentation at all, it is of the highest respectability and character. It has a record which

is coeval with the history of Lynn, and throughout that period it has been most closely identified with the public and private business of the city. It is a source of the highest satisfaction, I doubt not, to all the members of that family, to look back upon their honorable progenitors, and to look forward, also, in anticipation, and see their descendants, "bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh," meeting together, generation after generation, to aid in the transaction of the public business, and bringing to it, I trust, on each successive occasion, a stronger determination and a higher capacity to promote the public interest and advance the prosperity of our city. (Applause.)

The Mayor here proceeded to read a number of letters, received in response to invitations given to attend the exercises of dedication. Among them were the friendly and polite replies of Hon. Otis Norcross, Mayor of Boston; Hon. William Cogswell, Mayor of Salem; Hon. Eben F. Stone, Mayor of Newburyport, and Hon. N. H. P. Melvin, Mayor of Lawrence. Also a letter from Oliver A. Mudge, Esq., formerly of Lynn, but now of New London, Conn. The Mayors of various other cities responded in the most agreeable manner.

After the speaking was ended, a Quartette Club, consisting of Messrs. Charles E. Fairbanks and Edward Butler, with Misses Kate B. Plummer and M. E. Bartlett, from the choir of the Central Church, took possession of the landing, where a piano had been previously placed. Prof. J. Young presided at the instrument, and the quartette gave a series of fine vocal performances during the residue of the evening, much to the gratification of the people. Among these exercises, Mr. John H. Bubier sung the hymn entitled "The Omnipresent God," in a very impressive manner. Sufficient quiet could hardly be obtained, however, for the proper effect of the performance.

After the singing terminated, a further space was taken for promenade and conversation. Some of the

citizens organized an impromptu meeting in the Council Chamber, where J. N. Buffum, James W. Ingalls, Esqs., and others, made remarks, some of them highly humorous and amusing.

About ten o'clock, P. M., at the call of the Mayor, the whole assembly joined in singing "America," and afterwards the doxology, to "Old Hundred," with fine effect. Mayor USHER then said: —

Fellow-Citizens, — We have now finished, and I may say well finished, the work we undertook to do this day. In behalf of the City Government, let me tender you the thanks of the city for your attendance here to-day, and for the spirit of kind appreciation and approbation you have shown for the work of those who have had the duty of erecting this edifice. It is now approaching the hours of the Sabbath. I trust that you all may profitably enjoy the rest which it will bring, and that that rest may be found all the more pleasant on account of the exercises you have listened to this day. With these gratifying thoughts, ladies and gentlemen, allow me to bid you a very kind good night.

The assembly dispersed in the most quiet manner, and the Hall was empty and closed by half-past ten o'clock. Nothing had occurred from first to last to mar the pleasure of the occasion. The weight of the immense crowd in the gallery of the Staircase Hall had, as was afterward found, caused the breaking of some small stucco ornaments on the capitals of one or two of the columns; but no other injury to the building was discovered in any part. The Dedication had proved altogether successful; "a red-letter day," as the *Weekly Reporter* expressed it, in the history and calendar of Lynn.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING.

At this point it is proper to take a little space for the better portraiture and description of the building which is the special subject of this work, and which was dedicated to municipal uses with the signal honors that have been recounted. It has been frequently remarked, and may be probably taken as true, that no other building devoted to similar purposes, within our State and outside of Boston, is comparable to this in beauty of design and execution. Indeed, there are not many of its class in our country that rank above it, and these will only be found in the most important cities. It is gratifying to be able to add, that as a public possession it has given evident pleasure to a majority of our citizens, and though its cost was large, its loss would be deplored for reasons far deeper than can be estimated in money.

The central, open and unobstructed character of the site, so judiciously selected by the city government of 1863, certainly presented an opportunity for the favorable display of a public building of the highest architectural character. The view of the front, as seen in looking up from Market Street, presents the lines and masses of the principal façade, at the best possible angle of perspective, for fine effect, from our leading public thoroughfare. The view obtained from the Common and Park Square, in coming down in the opposite direction, is also quite as favorable as could have been desired, particularly in the season when the fine tower, rising above the thrifty trees of that well-kept enclosure, reveals that union of the lines of the architecture with the masses of foliage beneath, which is always most attractive to the educated eye. The wide space, too, which has been secured on the east side, by the judicious location of the building with respect to its distance from Essex Street, and the ample depth of the balance of the enclosure in the rear, on Johnson Street, combine to give the new building every advantage of location that a prudent foresight could have claimed for it. In all the important requisites of light, air, and free and unimpeded space for view on all sides, it

would be difficult to secure any additional advantages, in respect either of convenience, pleasantness, or dignified and imposing effect.

Upon the thoroughly appropriate site thus placed at their disposal, the committee of our city government, and their architects, Messrs. Gridley J. F. Bryant and Arthur Gilman, have erected a structure of which our citizens may well be proud, and which will stand as a memorial of the advancement of architectural art and taste in our community through long coming years. We feel that we do not claim more for our new Hall than has been almost universally conceded during the period of its erection, by all persons of observation and taste, when we record the conviction that it is a pre-eminently attractive and beautiful building, — a building which, besides providing for the due and convenient accommodation of all the various branches of the city government, possesses the highest claims, as a successful work of art, upon the favorable regard of all our citizens.

The peculiar style chosen for the design by the architects is that known as the Italian Renaissance, a style which may be said to adapt itself so naturally to the obvious requirements of the more dignified municipal structures of our day, as to appear almost to have grown out of them, and to have been influenced in its growth by considerations of fitness and utility alone. Derived originally from Italian sources, and from the works of the great masters of Italian art, more particularly from the style of the later edifices of the Venetian Republic, it has now been very successfully naturalized in the public structures of other countries, with more or less of changes and modifications, for the last three hundred years. It will be observed that it relies mainly on the ornamental treatment of those essential features, the door and window openings, the lines of roofs, and the marked separation of the various stories on the exterior, for its architectural effect. In this characteristic consists its adaptability and its harmonious common-sense effect. In fact, it will be found on any careful consideration of the subject, that in almost all the structures which are required by the present uses of society, this ornament of the openings, and other marked constructional features, form, of necessity, the leading characteristics of any correct design. This decoration of utility must be relied on as the most obvious mode of architectural expression, and the chief vehicle of whatever of ornament is properly to be introduced. The essential requirements of a structure, light and air, are perfectly apparent to every one, and the designs of our architects can only be said to be truly appropriate and beautiful, in proportion as they are found to provide for those requirements with

sense and spirit. The real designer must take these practically useful features as the key-note of his composition, and must set himself studiously to reconcile their real and practical utility with the highest degree of artistic elegance which each occasion, as it arises, will properly allow.

In the present instance, this Renaissaut style, from the great variety of outline which it admits of, and the multiplicity of parts required, will be found to be one admirably suited to the wants and uses of a great public building. Particularly is this the case, when we consider the numerous windows and other openings required for the varied purposes of the interior. And the great size of the mass of the building, when compared with the dimensions of the other structures in its vicinity, demands, in addition to the other requisites we have mentioned, somewhat of a dignified and imposing character, stamping it as a public building,—a character, too, which the combinations of this style, when naturally and unaffectedly treated, are peculiarly well calculated to bestow. So well have all these requirements been met and carried out by the architects of our new City Hall, that we believe their design will be found fully expressive, both in its outline and general appearance, as well as in the details of all its separate parts, of the dignified uses for which it is intended; and we have as little reason to doubt that the public in general will have good reason to be satisfied with it, through the coming years of the growth and prosperity of our city, as a permanent ornament to the imposing locality in which it has been so wisely placed.

The materials used in the erection of this building are pressed brick, of the best quality and description, for the exterior walls, with the basement, entablatures, string-courses, window-dressings, and other architectural details of the exterior, of Connecticut brown freestone.

The front consists externally of a centre, with two slightly projecting wings, connected with the centre in their leading lines, but separated in effect by the lofty central tower, the lower story of which forms, in connection with the portico outside and around three sides of the body of the tower, the principal entrance to the building. The introduction of so marked a feature as this tower, and the steeple by which it is surmounted, may be said to confer a peculiar and distinctive character upon the building,—assimilating it in effect, as remarked by the architects in their original report on the subject, to those well-known and widely recognized Town Halls of the old commercial cities of Europe, which have always served as the most admired models of this particular class of public structures.

The lot on which the new Hall is placed covers an area of 77,895 feet. An elegant iron fence, resting on a hammered granite base, surrounds it on the three principal sides, with handsome and appropriate gates placed in the centre of the principal front, and an entrance also, for foot passengers only, at the rear angle of Johnson and Essex Streets. Granite gateways, similar to that in the centre, communicate across the western part of the enclosure from front to rear. This fence comports with the general architectural character of the building.

The exterior walls are backed with the best hard-burned brick throughout, vaulted between the backing and the pressed facings. With very few and insignificant exceptions, all the interior partitions are also of brick, laid and bonded in the best and most thorough manner.

The interior finish of the first or entrance story is of oak, butter-nut and ash woods. The finish of the other stories is principally of ash, with the exception of the Mayor and Aldermen's Room and Council Chamber, which are finished in white pine, and tastefully painted in parti-colors.

The grand entrance is from the Park Square front and up the wide exterior flight of stone steps into the Staircase Hall, which measures 42 by 54 feet, and is paved with squares of black and white marble. Directly opposite is the grand staircase, nine feet in width, which gives access to the principal rooms of the second floor, and which, in its plan and details, is perhaps the most striking and effective feature of the whole interior. Built throughout of solid and handsome American oak, the ornamental face-stringers, newels, rails and balusters, are designed and executed with the utmost care, and a view of them is alone sufficient to repay a visit to the building. The continuous gallery which forms the landing in the principal story is carried on eight scagliola columns, with corresponding pilasters of the full Corinthian order, the ceiling overhead being deeply paneled and run with coffered mouldings. The central flight of stairs starts from the centre of the hall, opposite the principal entrance, and, after rising eighteen steps, diverges into two separate flights, to the right and left, to the galleries above. Abundantly lighted from overhead, by handsome paneled skylight openings of ample size, the effect of this staircase is certainly such as to justify the highest expectations as to its spaciousness and beauty.

In the wall back of the first landing, and directly facing the visitor as he ascends, is the memorial tablet described on p. 79.

With regard to the arrangement of the offices on the principal floor, and which are entered directly from the main hall, it will be observed that it has been made a particular point to provide for those which, from the nature of their occupancy, are liable to have the greatest number of people in daily attendance upon them. On the right of the hall is the office of the City Clerk, $24\frac{1}{2}$ by 26 feet, with a private room attached, 9 by $12\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and provided with a spacious fire-proof safe, 10 by 11 feet in area and 9 feet in height, with a second fire-proof apartment over it. No expense has been spared in the construction of this safe, with solid brick walls enclosing a heavy iron cage, so as to render it a fitting depository for all the valuable archives of the city. In immediate communication with the City Clerk's room, and entered also from the hall, is another fine apartment, $18\frac{2}{3}$ by 21 feet, intended for the Mayor's business room. This also accommodates the Overseers of the Poor. It opens in turn into the office of the Treasurer, 24 by 26 feet, also provided with a private room of 12 by 16 feet, and a fire-proof safe 5 by 9 feet. Through a lobby at the rear of the Staircase Hall, admittance is given to the Assessors' Room, $19\frac{1}{2}$ by $24\frac{1}{2}$ feet, also provided with a fire-proof safe, of the same size as that in the Treasurer's Room. On the other side of the staircase is placed the entrance to the office of the Judge of Police Court, $21\frac{1}{2}$ by $27\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The large front room on the left of the entrance is finely furnished as a Reception Room of 24 by 26 feet. The remainder of the space on this floor is assigned as follows: To the Clerk of the Police Court, a private room measuring 14 by 24 feet, and a room for the Cemetery Commissioners, 10 by 17 feet; a room for the Engineers of the Fire Department, 18 by 21 feet; a Messenger's Room, 9 by $12\frac{1}{3}$ feet; and a fine staircase hall — a feature of marked convenience — in the centre of the west front, by which direct access is had from the exterior to the Public Library, and the armory overhead. The clear interior height of this principal story is seventeen feet.

Ascending by the broad double staircase already described to the second floor, a wide landing, surrounding three sides of the staircase hall, gives access to the several apartments located in this story. The principal feature is the commodious and truly elegant Common Council Room, — an apartment of the most marked and striking character, extending the whole length of the central division of the building, and measuring 34 by 54 feet, and 28 feet high. A gallery is provided at each end, spanning the whole width of the apartment, covering, respectively, toilet-rooms, water-closets, entrance lobbies and gallery

staircases, all of which are at the level of the floor of the Council Chamber. For architectural effect, this apartment depends chiefly on its noble coved ceiling, divided into massive pannels, and the highly ornate finish of the gallery fronts and vestibules underneath. The area occupied by the members is enclosed by a handsome black walnut balustrade, the remainder of the floor being devoted to settees for the use of the public. Few apartments of a public nature throughout the Commonwealth can justly lay claim to a comparison with this Council Chamber, in the important requisites of convenience, appropriateness and simple beauty.

To the right the Mayor and Aldermen's Room occupies the centre of the east end, — an apartment in which a very pretty episode of plan is produced by the deep and wide recess projected out from the north side, for the Mayor's platform; the area of this room being 31 by 32 feet. It is pleasingly finished with pilasters and entablature of the full Corinthian order, and though smaller than the Council Chamber, is fully in accord with the style and finish of that room, its ceiling, however, being level, and twenty feet high. The front corner room, on the same side and over the room of the City Clerk, is appropriated to the School Committee. A smaller room, over the City Clerk's private office, measuring 9 by 17 feet, is appropriated to the City Engineer. A coat room, 11 by 14½ feet, and a convenient lobby, 11 by 14 feet, complete the arrangement of the easterly end of this floor.

The remainder of the space on this floor, occupying, in fact, the whole extent of the west end of the building, is devoted to the uses of the Public Library, and forms a noble apartment of 26 by 72 feet, with shelf room for at least 30,000 volumes. The Librarian is also provided with a private room, corresponding in location with the City Engineer's Room, before mentioned, and measuring 9 by 17 feet. The independent staircase at the west end, for outside access to the Public Library, is gained by a projection of 12 by 19 feet, in the centre of the west front of the building.

The height of the lesser apartments on this second or principal floor is twenty feet in the clear, but in the case of the Council Room and the Staircase Hall, a very considerable further increase of height has been secured, by coving the ceilings of these apartments above the level of the exterior wall cornices, and thus continuing them into the available space of the upper or Mansard story.

The basement story is devoted entirely to the purposes of the Police Court and its necessary appendages, and to the arrangements for fuel

and heating. The Court Room is a well lighted and convenient apartment, measuring 34 by 45 feet. A room underneath that of the City Clerk, on the front corner toward Market Street, is assigned to the Chief of Police, the room next in the rear of this being the general Police Room, 19 by 23 feet. The various cells and lodging rooms for vagrant "casuals," together with the entries, passage-ways, lavatories, and other conveniences required for the Police Department, and the space appropriated for fuel and heating apparatus, complete the arrangements on this floor, and certainly afford very ample and convenient accommodation for the homely but useful purposes to which this story has been devoted. The entrances to the basement department, it should be remarked, are exclusively in the rear, and connected with rear gates on Essex and Johnson Streets.

The Attic or Mansard floor, the space of which is included within the high French roof which crowns the whole building, contains several highly useful apartments, besides the area before mentioned as occupied by the Staircase Hall and the Common Council Room, as extended up into this story. Over the whole extent of the Public Library is a fine drill-room, for the joint use of military companies, while three other rooms, of the area of 24 by 25 feet, 19 by 30 feet, and 24 by 25 feet, respectively, are intended for separate armories; and two smaller rooms, each 9 by 17 feet, useful for the storage of public documents, complete the available area of this upper story. An excellent clock, from E. Howard & Co., adorns the tower, and a vane, the gift of H. A. Pevear, Esq., is conspicuous upon its summit.

We now proceed to give the names of the contractors and others who have contributed in a greater or less degree to the advancement of the work on the edifice.

The mason work has been done throughout by Edwin Adams, and the freestone by Messrs. Galvin & Currie. The plastering was the work of Lawrence Cleary; the slating by H. Riley's sons; the tasteful and admirable carving by S. F. Pratt & Co.; the iron beams and columns, and other constructional iron work, were furnished by G. W. & F. Smith; the iron safes by Ham & Dodge; the steam-heating apparatus by T. S. Clogston & Co.; the gas pipes by S. T. Sanborn & Co.; the general hardware by M. C. Warren & Co.; Tuttle, Gatfield & Co. supplied all the glass required; the paints were from the firm of Crafts & Williams; a portion of the copper work by Hicks & Badger; part of the lumber was furnished by Messrs. D. N. Skillings & Co., Joseph Gardner, J. F. Paul & Co., Clark & Smith, and Calvin Putnam; the doors by T. & J. F. Chase; the sashes and

blinds by L. L. Cooper and J. J. McNutt ; the handsome mantels and other marble work by Messrs. A. Wentworth & Co. ; the flagging from Baldwin & Emerson, and the clocks by E. Howard & Co. All of the above are firms doing business in Boston.

The portion of the materials supplied and work performed by residents of our own city has been furnished in their respective lines by the following gentlemen : A considerable portion of the lumber required was supplied by Messrs. Neal & Lee, Breed & Bassett, S. N. Breed & Co., Joseph Breed, 2d, and J. Raddin & Co. ; Messrs. Edward Pease and Walter B. Allen have been engaged in the carpenter work ; the metal roofing and plumbing work was by the firm of Larrabee & Brother ; William Baird & Son did the painting ; Geo. W. Otis furnished the lightning rods and iron railing ; the granite was furnished and cut by T. G. Blethen ; and part of the gas fitting done by J. C. Cheever. In all respects the spirit shown by the above parties in the performance of their shares of the work reflects credit upon them. The lead required came from J. A. & W. Bird & Co., and the black walnut stock from S. A. Holt, severally of Salem.

The neat and elegant furniture of the various apartments was furnished by E. H. Brabrook, 4 and 6 Union Street, Boston, represented by Amos Beckford, Jr., of this city ; the carpets by Messrs. Snow, Goldthwait & Knight, of Boston, and the gas fixtures, remarkable for their beauty and taste, by R. Hollins, of Boston.

The position of local superintendent of all the various works was ably filled by J. Q. Hammond, Esq., while Mr. J. W. Tewksbury, builder, had charge of the carpentry and other finishing work throughout. The quality of the work performed under the direction of Mr. Tewksbury commands the utmost praise ; and there are few public structures in the country that can compare with this in the careful arrangement and thorough execution of the interior construction and finish throughout. Our citizens may well congratulate themselves that this most important portion of the work has been supervised by such thoroughly trained and competent hands.

FINANCIAL HISTORY.

FINANCIAL HISTORY.

The following statements are those reported by the Joint Special Committee on City Hall, Dec. 28, 1868.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR LAND.

July 15, 1863.	First appropriation for the purchase of Lot. .	\$15,000 00
Oct. 17, 1864.	Appropriation for enlarging Lot. . .	6,700 00
	Subsequently added.	700 00
		\$7,400 00
		\$22,400 00

EXPENDITURES.

Oct., 1863.	Paid to the heirs of Holton Johnson. .	\$10,000 00
	to Rufus Johnson.	1,250 00
	to Charles E. Spinney.	1,650 00
	to Everett A. Alley.	2,100 00
Dec., 1864.	Paid to George Foster.	1,400 00
	to G. L. Gamage.	2,000 00
	to S. J. Weinberg.	4,000 00
		\$22,400 00

APPROPRIATIONS FOR BUILDING.

Aug. 28, 1865.	For basement of City Hall.	\$20,000 00
July 12, 1866.	For superstructure (City Bonds). .	100,000 00
Jan. 29, 1867.	For superstructure and finish (City Bonds).	100,000 00
	For completing and furnishing (City Bonds).	57,000 00
		277,000 00

EXPENDITURES.

Paid Messrs. Bryant & Gilman, architects.	\$8,000 00
Edward Adams, contractor for masonry. . . .	49,632 69
Messrs. Galvan & Currie, for freestone. . . .	60,863 32
Lawrence Cleary, plastering and stucco work. .	13,097 00
James W. Tewksbury, builder.	40,848 20
T. S. Clogston & Co., heating apparatus. . . .	10,497 66
T. G. Blethen, for stone steps, fence, &c. . .	15,672 75
Larrabee & Bro., tin roofing, coppering, &c. .	10,197 07
Tuttle, Gallfield & Co., for glass.	3,550 73
	\$212,359 42
<i>Amount carried forward.</i>	

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$212,359 42
Paid M. C. Warren & Co., for hardware.	2,297 45
G. W. & F. Smith, iron beams and columns. . .	4,304 74
S. F. Pratt & Co., for carving.	1,566 50
Ham & Dodge, for iron safes.	4,391 00
William Baird & Son, for painting.	4,043 92
Joseph F. Paul & Co., for lumber.	4,105 75
Breed & Bassett, for lumber.	6,910 26
D. N. Skillings & Co., for lumber.	1,809 80
Neal & Lee, for lumber.	1,478 40
Hicks & Badger, coppering.	1,514 60
A. Wentworth & Co., for marble.	3,560 87
T. & J. F. Chase, for doors.	2,529 00
Bugbee & Hollis, for locks, knobs, &c. . . .	1,112 22
Geo. W. Otis, for lightning rods and railings. .	1,208 28
J. J. McNutt, for fancy wood-work.	2,250 63
L. L. Cooper, for sashes, blinds, &c.	1,818 00
R. Hollings, for gas fixtures.	1,531 05
E. H. Brabrook, for furniture.	7,370 22
Goldthwait, Snow & Knight, carpets.	1,824 53
William M. Newhall, bricks for sidewalk. . .	1,203 77
Charles E. Kimball, for insurance.	1,029 00
Walter B. Allen, for flooring basement. . . .	1,013 01
H. Riley's sons, for slating.	847 03
McKie & Brother, for lathing.	553 87
Crafts & Williams, paints.	621 71
W. Blanchard & Co.	588 94
Denio, Roberts & Co., steel safe.	574 00
E. Howard & Co., clocks.	670 00
Morss & Whyte, iron railing, &c.	405 09
John Hall, window sashes.	390 40
S. T. Sanborn & Co., gas pipes.	340 77
J. C. Cheever, gas fixtures.	682 38
S. N. Breed & Co., lumber.	727 94
Joseph Breed, 2d, lumber.	540 09
J. Raddin & Co., lumber.	363 61
O. A. Durrell, stone work.	490 75
Sundry persons for lumber, labor & materials. .	4,415 06
Sundry persons for teaming, grading, &c. . .	5,878 18
Total.	\$289,322 24
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Appropriations brought forward. For land. . . .	\$22,400 00
For building.	277,000 00
Transfer from Contingent account to balance. . .	12,322 24
	<hr/>
	\$311,722 24
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Expenditures brought forward. For land. . . .	\$22,400 00
For building.	289,322 24
	<hr/>
	\$311,722 24

VENERABLE LIST.

V E N E R A B L E L I S T .

As a fitting conclusion to this work, it remains to give, as below, an enumeration of the aged and venerable citizens who honored with their presence the dedicatory services at the City Hall, being then seventy or more years of age. With many of them it was an occasion of great pride and enjoyment. Some took much pains and made considerable journeys to meet the invitation ; and none have been found who did not feel themselves repaid by the exercises of the day, and the satisfaction, not often had, perhaps, of meeting with old friends and looking upon faces familiar in years long gone by.

It is not pretended that this list is absolutely complete. Great pains have been taken to make it as nearly so as possible ; but it is almost inevitable that some may have escaped attention after all. It would have been difficult to register them all with certainty, even on the spot ; and how much more so after the lapse of several years. It is therefore hoped that any such omission, if noticed, will be understood and excused.

Born	Born
1783.	10 July. Calley Newhall.
21 Nov. Epes Mansfield.	19 Sept. Christopher Johnson.
1784.	1786.
16 Nov. Jonathan Richardson.	17 Feb. Paul Newhall.
Tyler of Mt. Carmel Lodge of Masons from 1834 to 1867.	Former owner of the "War Office." See p. xi.
1785.	19 March. Christopher Bubier.
29 March. Hon. Stephen Oliver.	1 Sept. Benjamin Mudge.
Member Mass. Senate in 1837 and 1841.	County Commissioner from 1850 to 1856.

Born

1787.

- 16 Feb. Israel Buffum.
13 Aug. John Bailey.
2 Nov. William D. Thompson.

1788.

- 15 April. Edmund Nourse.
2 July. Moses Bursiel.

1789.

- 18 June. Capt. Amos Breed.
16 Dec. Capt. John Lovejoy.
Member Massachusetts Constitutional Convention, 1820.

1790.

- 12 March. Oliver Questrom.
22 April. Cyrus Houghton.
10 July. Dean Gray.
6 Nov. John Mansfield.
23 Dec. Joseph Dampney.

1791.

- 13 March. James Howard.
11 May. John Deland.
Seaman of 1812 and prisoner at Dartmoor.
24 Aug. Theophilus Burrill.
10 Nov. Theophilus Hallowell.
12 Nov. David Bowler.

1792.

- 26 March. John Chase.
16 April. Jesse L. Lewis.
25 Oct. Rev. George Heard.
10 Dec. Benjamin H. Jacobs.
sexton of Old Burying Ground since 1836.

1793.

- 11 Feb. Joseph Ingalls.
Member of first City Government, 1850.
23 Feb. Daniel Caldwell.
25 June. Joseph Barry.
27 June? Ebenezer Lee.
9 Oct. Jonathan Buffum.
Former owner and publisher of *Lynn Record*.

1794.

- 11 Jan. James Babb.
Member of first City Government, 1850.
9 Feb. William M. Ladd.
12 Feb. Caleb Stone.
27 March. Timothy Newhall.

Born

25 April. Benjamin B. Johnson.
Former owner in land occupied by City Hall.

20 May. James Oliver.
Cashier of Lynn Mechanics' Bank for many years.

20 Sept. Andrews Breed.
Mayor in 1855.

20 Sept. Nathaniel Peck.
1 Oct. Daniel L. Mudge.

1795.

16 Feb. Jacob Purinton.
A well known land surveyor for many years.
19 April. Samuel Bacheller.
21 April. Amos Rhodes.
Librarian of Lynn Social Library from 1820 to 1850.

16 May. Solomon Alley.
4 June. Shadrach Ramsdell.
29 June. John R. Johnson.
Former owner in land occupied by City Hall.
17 Oct. Amos Lewis.
? John B. Wormstead.
Seaman in action of Hornet and Peacock,
Feb. 23, 1813.

1796.

16 April. Capt. Joseph A. Lloyd.
Mechanical Engineer; Commissioner of
Wrecks from 1828 to 1868.
17 May. Denison Gage.
17 June. Isaac Organ.
8 Aug. Daniel Johnson.
28 Sept. Samuel Graves.
22 Oct. Col. Ebenezer Neal.
1 Nov. George Lummus.
1 Dec. Thomas F. Newhall.
27 Dec. Loadman Arrington.

1797.

1 March. Benjamin Ashton.
10 March. Henry Newhall.
President Central National Bank. See p. 32.
6 April. William Chase.
10 May. John Aspinwall.
11 June. Col. John Nichols.
13 June. Jesse Frost.
26 July. Samuel Rust.
23 Aug. Richard Tufts.
Deacon of First Church since 1834.
3 Sept. Albin Rose.
7 Oct.? Josiah R. Clough.
18 Oct. Williams Ingalls.

I N D E X .

ERRATA.

Page 79. The first date on the Memorial Tablet should read Nov. 28 instead of Nov. 23.

Page 123, 9th line from bottom, for Edward read Edwin.

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